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CHINESE MOHAMMEDAN PILGRIMS IN TRANSIT

Charged With Indecent Exposure

Sidney Firman, a seaman, indecently exposed himself to a little girl at Chatham Road Children's Playground. When the father of the child heard the story, he went out to look for the sailor and found him still in the playground. He was taken to the Tsimshatsui Police Station.

Firman was told to sit down at the station and wait as the officer on duty was busy. While the inspector's attention was occupied elsewhere, Firman walked out and disappeared. After a search, the police eventually found him and charged him with indecent exposure and escaping from custody.

Pleading guilty and saying that he was too drunk to know what he was doing, defendant made a public apology to the parent of the child whom he had insulted.

Mr. W. H. Latimer sentenced him to a fine of \$400 or two months in default at Kowloon yesterday.

Detective (Sub-Inspector) W. H. Summers prosecuted.

Two Generals Reported Killed

Two Generals were reported killed on Sunday by mutineering troops who went over to the Communists.

The killings occurred at Sukai, 20 miles North of Kwangchow.

The victims were Lieutenant General Chang Kung-sung, commander of provincial forces at Kwangchow, and his Deputy commander, Major General Peng Pao-an.

They were inspecting the 10th Provincial Regiment.

Reports said the mutineers were waiting for Communist reinforcements from Hainan Island so that they could form a provincial government on Luchow peninsula with Kwangchow as its base.—Associated Press.

The Kowloon Courts will be closed on Saturday, December 25 (Christmas Day), and Friday, December 31 (New Year's Eve). Both courts will sit as usual on Saturday, January 1, 1949.



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Lane, Crawford Awarded Judgment

Judgment in the sum of \$12,721.20 and costs was awarded at the Supreme Court yesterday by Mr. Justice Reynolds (Acting Puisne Judge), in favour of Lane, Crawford Ltd., against Tong Suen-hing.

The judgment debt represented the price of goods sold and delivered by Lane, Crawford Ltd., to Tong Suen-hing during the months of January and February 1948.

Mr. D. A. L. Wright, instructed by Messrs. Brutton and Co., also represented Lane, Crawford Ltd., plaintiffs. The defendant, Tong Suen-hing, was neither present in Court nor represented.

Mr. Wright, instructed by Messrs. Brutton and Co., also represented Fung Chik-sin and E. S. C. Brooks, the first and second mortgagees respectively of the remaining portion of Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2095.

Mr. Wright said that a Writ of Foreign Attachment had been issued in this case on November 23 and that all the requirements laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure concerning foreign Attachments had been fulfilled.

Mr. Edward William McCarthy, Accountant of Lane, Crawford Ltd., said that the defendant, Tong Suen-hing, had an account with his firm.

He said that copies of the accounts produced in Court had been sent to defendant and that no objection had been received.

Mr. Justice Reynolds then gave judgment for the plaintiffs in the following terms:

"That judgment be given for the plaintiffs against the defendant for the amount claimed and costs to be taxed; that execution may issue against the defendant's property; the Remaining Portion of Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2095, subject to the prior claims of the first and second mortgagees of the property.

"That the plaintiffs be entitled to payment of their claim and costs out of any balance of the proceeds of sale of the said property by the first mortgagee under his power of sale, after payment of the amount due to the second mortgagee.

"That the plaintiffs be entitled to payment of their claim and costs out of any balance of the proceeds of sale of the said property by the first mortgagee under his power of sale, after payment of the amount due to the second mortgagee.

DISCHARGED AT CENTRAL

With only the complainant's written statement in a Jersey case, Mr. F. X. d'Almonda at Central yesterday discharged Chan Nui, a girl of 17, who was charged with the larceny of \$14.50 from the person of Raiford Scott of the U.S. Navy.

As complainant's ship had left the colony and his written statement of the alleged crime could not be challenged, the girl was accordingly discharged.

The same girl, however, had a previous conviction against her for returning from expulsion and on this charge she was sentenced to six weeks imprisonment and to be re-expelled.

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Polio Case Reported

One case of infantile paralysis—the first of its kind this year—was registered with the Health Authorities during the week ended December 11.

Other infectious diseases reported to the Health Department during the same period were 94 cases of tuberculosis (44 deaths), one case of whooping cough, one of puerperal fever, 10 of measles, three of enteric fever (one death), three of dysentery, eight of diphtheria (two deaths), three of chickenpox and one of meningitis.

Births during the same period were 1,008; and deaths, 240.

Rollicking Fanfare Of Tomfoolery

(By KIMBERLEY)

The YMCA Christmas Pantomime, "Red Riding Hood" is a rollicking fanfare of tomfoolery in the most delightful manner.

This presentation by Jack Shepherd is the boldest effort ever put across by any local group of amateurs. It defies and challenges practically every law of stagecraft and succeeds admirably, judging by the best criterion, the audience.

Only the bare structure of the original fairy tale is preserved in this pantomime written by Jack Shepherd himself under the hood of Barnaby Twist, chairman as it were of his Sexton Temple.

In and out of this framework, Shepherd weaves a comedy of a delightful pattern, giving life to a number of creations such as Dan Detonator and Sam Sloggit. The resultant picture is comparable to a surrealist's idea of a Christmas tree.

There are a few changes and additions. Mother Hood in the pantomime is given a bigger role. The Fairy Queen is introduced to bring in the romance—and subsequently, the Prince—and also to serve as an antidote to the Witch who shoves the Wolf aside, to play the villain.

From the opening curtain the show extends a hand and asks one to be friendly. And one cannot help but accept it on their terms: not after the pitiful way in which Sam Sloggit asks you to "look after my worldly goods."

The script gives unlimited latitude to the performers who make very little effort to hide shy. Best comedians are Jack Horne, Dan Detonator and Flip Addison as Sam Sloggit. Harold Parker plays an active Mother Hood and makes no qualms about burlesquing the part to infinity.

Good Impression

As Red Riding Hood, Vera Lee lacks little of the charm, coyness and—simplicity of the girl—we know in the book. Her graceful movements on the stage lend much to the good impression she makes.

Lawrence Cleme stands well in the part of the Prince but falls at times to dominate her scenes.

An important factor from the audience's point of view of this production, is that no time is allowed for the mind to leave the show. Dialogue is happily interrupted by Winifred McKenna's dancing, kysies, and ballet syllabics or an impromptu turn by the Prompter (the actually appears) or even communal singing.

The script now and then tends to bring in a touch of straight drama, and it is in this that the production fails.

One instance is the witch's cave scene. This could have been given the weird effect of the Macbeth witch-cave. As it stands, the scene might be just as well played with full lights on minus the fire and cauldron. However, this can be overlooked as the presentation frankly makes no claim to Art, attempting only upon one endeavour to entertain. In this, it is vastly successful.

Convent Speech Day Grand Occasion

Speech Day at the Maryknoll Convent School yesterday was a grand occasion for school girls. Pupils with their friends and parents attended the function in style, at which the Governor distributed the prizes.

A choral group of girls assembled in the yard, lined with the uniformed guides of the School, and began the carols as the Governor arrived.

Entertainment was provided with a presentation of a play depicting the carol "Good King Wenceslas," which was colourful and well produced.

In her report, read by Esther Malone, Regional Superior of the Maryknoll Mission in Hong Kong, the school mistress said that the chief difficulty was the question of the number of entrants. The School has at present a staff of 27 teachers for 600 students distributed among 10 classes. It could not accept any more applications until more class rooms were available.

Kindergarten however would accept enrollment each new school year.

It was also said in the report that a new science laboratory has been installed. This will serve for Biology classes and for the girls, who have found the subject interesting.

"It is not only that the study of biology will show the young minds the way to clear thinking but it will also help the students to appreciate more fully the miracles that surround them in Nature," the Head Mistress emphasized in the report.

"The Hong Kong branch of the Maryknoll Convent School has also now begun to function and has a roster of 160 students. We are looking forward to being able to accommodate more."

The Head Mistress commented upon the School's Guides, the 6th Kowloon, and expressed thanks to Miss Beryl Goldenberg, the organizer. Their group, the Hong Kong Guide's Guild, this year, the report concluded.

Anglo-Java Estates' Meeting

The annual general meetings of the Anglo-Java Estates, Limited, and the Java Consolidated Rubber and Coffee Estates, Limited, were held yesterday at the offices of J. A. Wattle and Company, Limited.

The 1948-49 accounts of the Anglo-Java Estates, Limited, showed a loss of £1,210. 10. 10, which was made up almost entirely of office expenses in Hong Kong, as remittances from Java have not yet been permitted by the authorities there.

The Chairman's report follows in part:

"Practically all the plantations belonging to the company have been reported as destroyed. It has not yet been possible for the company's representatives to visit Limburg, Djarangan or Soepi, Cerang Estates, but a visit has been made to Panuwangan Estate, which confirms the total destruction of all buildings and machinery, and the coffee plantations completely unrooted or stumped. The area is still considered by the military as dangerous. Until it becomes safe, there is nothing to be done except to consider plans for dealing with the Estate when it has been recovered by the Agents."

"The appalling destruction reported recently in the South Malang area has hit the Company very badly indeed, as both Limburg and Djarangan Estates were very fine rubber plantations, and before the war, were giving very high yields for extraordinary low cost. As soon as any further news of a reliable nature is received, shareholders will be informed. In the meantime, steps have had to be taken to dispose of the services of some of the planting staff who have been standing by."

"The political situation in Java is still very obscure, and in certain areas the security position has deteriorated. The present deadlock must be resolved, as it means that a large part of a very rich and productive area of Java is out of commission, but the chances of a peaceful settlement do not look too hopeful."

The meeting was attended by Messrs. F. W. Welch (Chairman), Messrs. H. Kadoorie, A. E. Fenton (Directors), Mr. C. E. Abbas (representing the Secretaries and General Managers, J. A. Wattle and Company, Limited, and Shareholders representing 60,800 shares).

A loss of £414. 10. 2, during the year ended December 31, 1947, was recorded by the Java Consolidated Rubber and Coffee Estates, Limited.

The Chairman added: "Your Directors had hoped that during 1948 it might have been possible to re-occupy the Estates and to begin, unfortunately, up to August 1948, the only reports received were statements by various natives who had crossed the demarcation line between the area held by the Republics, where the Estates are situated, and the areas held by the Netherlands Indies Government."

"These statements were regarded as probably unreliable, but did tend to show that considerable damage had taken place, and was still taking place, on Estates in Republican held territory. Then in August, reliable reports were received of the senseless and appalling destruction which had taken place in the South Malang area."

"There is no need for me to emphasize the seriousness of this news for the future of your company, and shareholders will be informed immediately any further reliable information is received."

Those who attended the meeting were: Mr. W. A. Welch (Chairman), Messrs. H. Kadoorie, A. E. Fenton (Directors), Mr. C. E. Abbas (representing the Secretaries and General Managers, J. A. Wattle and Company, Limited, and Shareholders representing 120,510 shares).

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Classified Advertisements, accepted up to 5 p.m. for publication in the following day's paper.

Replies for the following Box Nos. are awaiting collection.

No. 6/9.

Replies will be forwarded to the Advertiser if requested on the original form which should bear their name and address.

A suitable announcement will be inserted free of charge if Advertiser's requirements are satisfactorily answered.

WANTED KNOWN

CHRISTMAS Sale. "Hi-speed" motor, Junior model, at special price \$15.00 each. Wong Brothers & Company, Room 319, Exchange Building.

HOLLYWOOD STORE—Ladies' wear for all occasions including Evening, Afternoon, Cocktail, Dinner and Day Dresses in all latest shades and exclusive design. Autumn and Winter Sports and Dressy Suits and Coats, Chic Blouses, Skirts, Slacks and Slacks Suits. Wide range of variety. Sizes: 9 to 22. Also Dainty Costume Jewellery, Handbags and Shoes (Sizes: 3½-7). Room 206, Melbourne Hotel, Tel. 59108. Business hours: 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

RUGS Manufacturers and Exporters Peking and Tientsin Carpets and Rugs. Peking Art Rug Company Room No. 89 Lucky Apartment, corner of Hankow and Peking Road, Kowloon.

CARPETS & RUGS—Genuine Peking and Tientsin, lovely designs and colorings, various sizes. Come and inspect at The China Rug Co., Kowloon Building, 4th Floor (Opposite Hong Kong Hotel), Queen's Road, Central.

NEWLY ARRIVED Underwood Typewriters, standard and portable, fine, typewriter ribbons and carbon papers, obtainable at The World Typewriter Co., 45, Wellington Street, Hong Kong. Tel. 20508

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MAY BE BOOKED AT THE BUNDOON BOOK STORE, 25 NATHAN ROAD, TEL. 59327

RENOMMEE Imported and Locally made Autumn dresses, suits, coats, 603 Victory House, 5, Wyndham Street.

LADIES we have at your service all specialized operations for Helene Curtis curl waves, machineless oil perms, hairdyes & manicure—ROSE MARIE Beauty Parlour—Phone 60384-43, Hankow Rd., Kowloon.

PREMISES WANTED

BRITISH Medical Officer requires temporary accommodation immediately Kowloon. Wife and one child, aged eighteen months. Reply Box No. 691 "China Mail."

AMERICAN Pilot and wife desires room with bath. Reply Box 686 "China Mail."

FOR SALE

ONE Diesel Generator Potter Brush, 187 HP 150 KVA 400 Volts 3 Phase complete with compressor and air starting equipment. For further particulars, Apply Van Lee's (Hong Kong) Ltd., Oil St., North Point Tel. 32219.

AERIAL Motor Biko 350 CC good condition \$900 or nearest offer. Apply Homingway HM, Dockyard between 6 P.M.—7 P.M.

SPACIOUS and Attractive residence for sale on Cheung Chau Island with electric lights, water and modern sanitation, big lot, convenient to market and ferry. Please write P.O. Box 303, Hong Kong.

ONE PHILIPS eight-tube Aero radio, practically new. \$850. No offers. Reply Box 689, "China Mail."

PLASTIC Tablecloths boys' pyjamas at exceedingly low prices. F. S. Louie & Co. Bank of China Bldg., 4th floor.

PILOT RADIOS: Same reliable pre-war quality now obtainable at popular prices, made possible only by increased demand and large sales. World Reception Models from \$190 each. Obtainable at all the better dealers or direct from: Colonial Agencies, Teakoochoy Bldg., 14, Queen's Road, Phone 26310.

CHINA MAIL X'MAS CARDS at 50 cents each, with envelope to match. Obtainable at all Leading Book Stores and "China Mail" Office.

CHINA MAIL PICTORIAL at \$2.00 per copy. Obtainable at all Leading Book Stores and "China Mail" Office.

LAMMERT BROTHERS.

AUCTIONEERS, SURVEYORS AND APPRAISERS

Tel. No. 20224

Pedder Building.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

OR

PUBLIC AUCTION

On instructions received from the Owners, The Orient Tobacco Manufacturing Co. (Ingenohl Ltd.), 16B, Des Voeux Road, Mezzanine Floor, Gloucester Building, Hongkong the undersigned have much pleasure in announcing the

SALE BY AUCTION

on or about

THURSDAY, 13th JANUARY, 1949

(unless previously sold)

at

PARTS OF KOWLOON INLAND LOT NO. 1203

situate at

NATHAN ROAD, MONGKOK, KOWLOON

and

having important and valuable frontages on Nathan Road, Soy Street and Dundas Street suitable for Development.

PARTICULARS.

Lot No. 1.

Situated on the corner of Nathan Road and Soy Street. Area approximately 9650 square feet—Frontage on Nathan Road approximately 74 feet and on Soy Street of approximately 130 feet. The Lot is vacant land with the exception of 5 temporary shops fronting on Nathan Road erected in 1940 now let on monthly tenancies. If the Lot is sold the Vendors will at their own expense construct a public road 60 feet wide at the rear of the Lot, being an extension of Sai Yeung Choi Street on which the Lot will have a frontage of approximately 74 feet.

The Lot, with the next mentioned Lot represents one of the most valuable sites in the Mongkok area of Nathan Road still available for development and is ideally suitable for the erection of a modern Cinema, Theatre, Hotel or the like.

Lot No. 2.

Situated on the corner of Nathan Road and Dundas Street. Area approximately 48650 square feet. Frontage on Nathan Road approximately 152 feet and on Dundas Street 320 feet.

On this Lot are erected

- (1) ten temporary shops fronting on Nathan Road erected in 1940 and now let on monthly tenancies and
- (2) the valuable Factory Building of the Orient Tobacco Manufacturing Co. (Ingenohl Ltd.) strongly built of brick with steel beams and trusses. The latter building was looted during the Japanese occupation and has not been repaired.

This Lot with its large frontage on Nathan Road and Dundas Street is one of the largest and most valuable sites in the Mongkok area of Nathan Road now available for development. The factory building could at comparatively little expense easily be converted for use as a Hotel, School, Office Block or the like.

A small portion of the vacant land at the rear of the Factory Building is now let on a monthly tenancy as open storage space. Notice to quit has been given to the Tenant.

Lots 3-10.

Situated on Soy Street and between the proposed extensions of Sai Yeung Choi Street and Tung Choi Street. The area of each Lot will be about 1000-1100 square feet with a depth of 65 feet.

The Vendors will in the event of the Lots being sold construct at their own expense a public road 60 feet wide being an extension of Sai Yeung Choi Street.

These Lots are vacant land free from any tenancy and are suitable for the building of shops and dwelling houses.

Lots 8, 9 and 10 are let on a monthly tenancy for the storage of motor trucks.

Notice to quit has been given to the tenant.

Lots 11-20.

Situated on the proposed extension of Sai Yeung Choi Street. The area of each Lot will be from 1100-1500 square feet with a depth of about 65 feet.

These Lots are vacant land and are suitable for the building of shops and dwelling houses.

All the Lots are held under a Crown Lease for 75 years (renewable for a further 75 years) from 28th January 1907. No building covenant attaches to the Lots to be sold.

The Purchaser of each Lot will be required to pay a proportion of the Crown Rent calculated at the rate of approximately \$9.00 per 1000 square feet of the area purchased.

Copies of a preliminary plan showing the situation and approximate areas can be seen at the Office of the Vendors, 16B, Des Voeux Road, Mezzanine Floor, Gloucester Building or Messrs. Deacons Solicitors for the Vendors, 1 Des Voeux Road Central, first floor or the undersigned during business hours.

A further announcement will be made when the date, place and time of the auction has been definitely fixed.

LAMMERT BROS.

(Agent) 11777, 1st

and Auctioneers, C. S.

LAMMERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors and Appraisers, Pedder Building, Telephone No. 20224.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

Thursday, the 23rd December, 1948, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

at their Sales Rooms, No. 35 Hankow Road, Kowloon.

A Fine Collection of Valuable Household Furniture.

comprising:—

Harmonium, Chromium & Leather Covered Chestofdraws, Single & Double Beds, Single & Double Wardrobes, Dressing Tables, Low Boys, Bed Side Cabinets, Folding Card Table, Singer Hand Sewing Machines, Extension Dining Tables, Chairs, Glass Cabinets, Sideboards, Writing Tables, Office Armchairs, Divans, Carved Camphorwood Chests, Frigidaire, Cutlery, Silver Tea & Coffee Set, Soup Tureen, Glass Ware, Tea Poy, Mirrors, Babies Cots, Child's Bed, Mobo Toy, Horse, Clothes, Fire Brasses, Book Case, Carpets, Rugs, Tea Waggon, Standard Lamp, Gramophone Records, Ice Chest, and Blackwood Furniture, Etc., Etc.

Also

1 International Refrigerator—20 Cu. Ft.

On View from Wednesday, the 22nd December, 1948.

Terms: As Customary.

LAMMERT BROS., Auctioneers.

WAR DEPARTMENT NOTICE

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS STORES

By Order of the Commander, Royal Army Ordnance Corps HQ Land Forces, the following item, lying at Ordnance Depot, Shamshulpo, will be sold by tender:—

32,820 prs. Boots Ankle Indian Pattern.

1. Application to view samples will be made to CRAOC HQ Land Forces, Queen's Road East between 1000 and 1200 hrs daily.

2. Forms of tender will be issued on receipt of \$500.00 earnest money, returnable on completion of sale.

Cheques in respect of earnest money must be made payable to Command Cashier, Hong Kong.

3. Date for closing of tenders will be 12 o'clock, December 30, '48.

Service Auction Rooms

A. E. B. de Souza, Auctioneer. Auctioneers, Surveyors, etc. Basement, French Bank Bldg., Telephone 31877.

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Bank Safe Deposit Boxes from which Contents were removed by the Japanese during the Occupation of the Colony

Boxholders of the undernoted safe deposit boxes at the time of removal of contents by the Japanese are requested to send to the Undersigned, as soon as possible, their names, addresses, box numbers and lists of contents.

W. R. N. ANDREWS, Custodian of Property.

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	3510.	3793.	3858.	4118.	4199.	4413.
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Applications Refused By Council

Two applications for food factory licences, four for meat shop licences, one for a food preserving establishment licence, and one for a cafe licence, were refused by the Urban Council at its fortnightly meeting yesterday.

Council decided on refusal on the recommendation of the various select committees whose rejection is subject to Council's approval. In all cases the reason for refusal was unsuitability of premises.

Three of the applications for meat shop licences for stalls on pavements which the select committee considered to be an obstruction to the public.

The application for a food preserving establishment was for premises at No. 1037, Canton Road, third floor. The select committee considered the presence of latrines on the roof renders sausage drying on the same undesirable.

Council approved an amendment to by-law 41 of the Market By-Laws so as to render it an offence to possess, in the precincts of a stall, instruments for injecting fluid or air into the carcasses of animals or birds.

The Chairman, Dr. J. P. Feltham, explained that as the by-law at present stood, offenders could only be prosecuted if caught in the act. This, in practice, had been found to be most difficult.

Money Market

A big spurt in NEI Golders was the main feature of the money market yesterday. The closing rate was HK\$38.40 a 100, as against \$33 the previous day.

Gold was steady. Opening at HK\$297.25 a tael, it went up by 25 cents and then dropped to \$290.12½. At the close it was \$290.25.

U.S. dollars were easier at HK\$50.44½, after opening at \$50.05½ in the morning.

Gold Yuan were quoted, at 7 cents and 74 cents.

Canton remittances were at 6.65 cents, and Shanghai remittances at 7.375 cents.

Pistres opened at HK\$7.40 a 100 and closed at \$7.12½.

Italians were unchanged at HK\$26.20 a 100.

Sterling made a further advance to HK\$15.05, while Australian pounds were lower at HK\$12.63.

Have you booked your X'MAS APPOINTMENT yet?

We will be only too pleased to help you look your best on these coming festive occasions. As a special compliment to our customers, each Shampoo Set we do this festive week, will be treated to a FREE spray of Houbigans Perfumed Hair Lotion. We also specialise in Permanent Waving, Tinting, Bleaching, Facials, Manicure, Pedicure.

Betan's Beauty Salon,

Ladies' & Gentlemen's Hairdressers. Exchange Bldg., 1st Fl., Tel. 33161

BETAN'S SALON

Ladies' Hairdressers. Peninsula Arcade. Tel. 58081

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turnor



"Do my opinions necessarily have to be those of the 'little man'? I get plenty of that at home and at the office!"

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

NOT LIKE A SACRIFICE

THERE are many occasions on which a good player will make a deliberate sacrifice bid, hoping the opponents will double him and beat his contract a few tricks in lead of conceding to him their own contract which will produce more points for them. Less frequently situations arise in which you feel that such a sacrifice would be too costly, but in which the earliest possible bid of the sacrificing number of tricks might lure the other fel- into overbidding to a height hey otherwise would not essay.

SA 82 H 9 8 5 4 3 1 7 C K Q 7 2
S K J 7 5
H 3 2
C K Q 8 3
C 6 5 4
S 10
H A K J
C 10 7 6
D Q 6 4
C 9 8 3
S Q 9 3 1 3
H Q
D A 10 5 2
C A J 10

(Dealer: South—North-South vulnerable).

South West North East
1 S Pass 2 S 3 H
4 S 5 H Pass 2 Pass
Dbl
One of the world's greatest players, Morrie Ellis of New York, made that very pronounced overbid of 4-Spades on his second turn. His partner having been able to give him only a single raise—which might be a mere "courtesy raise"—his natural rebid over the 3-Hearts would have been just 3-Spades. He definitely lacked enough surplus in playing tricks for the

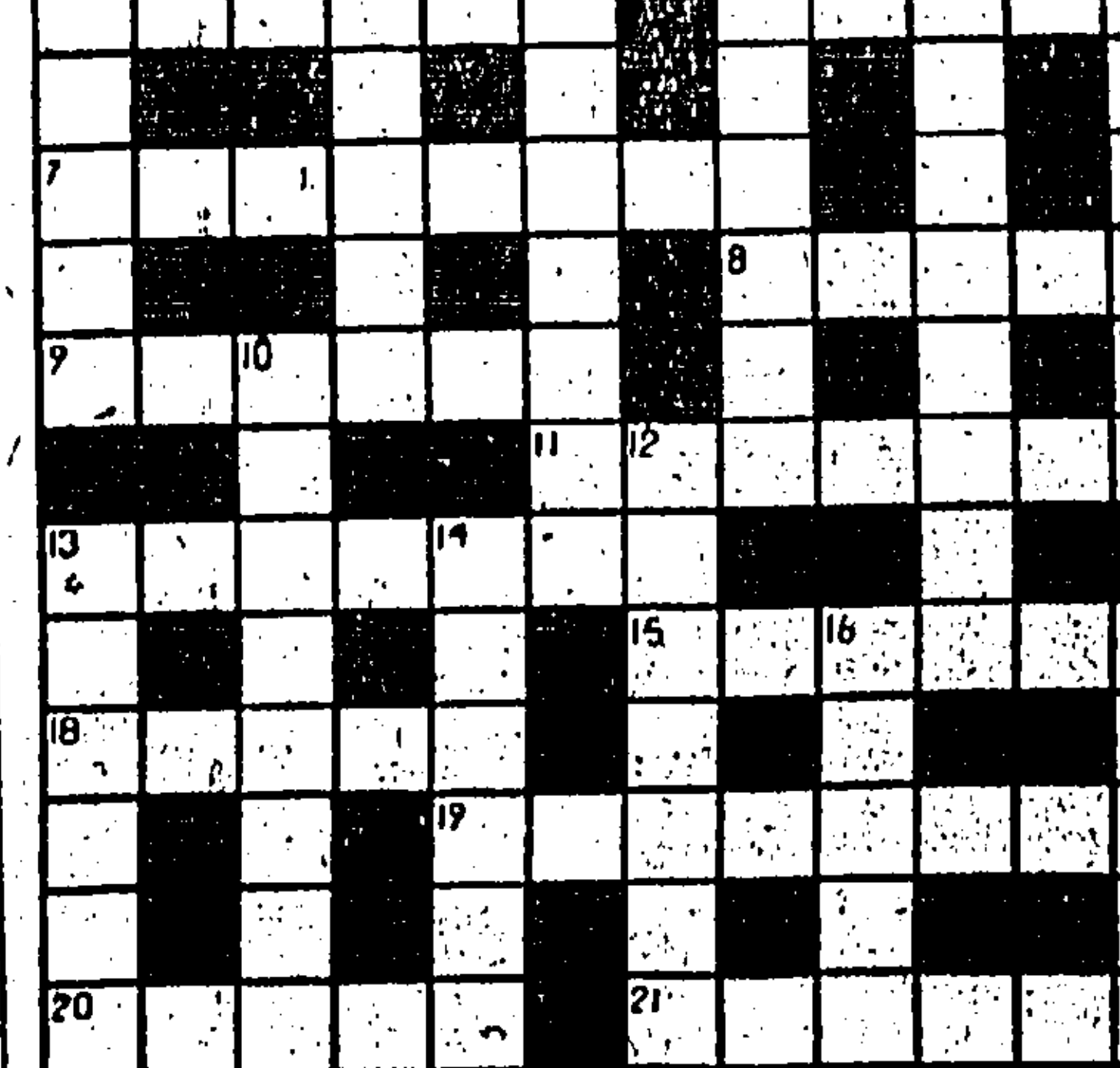
SA 82 H 9 8 5 4 3 1 7 C K Q 7 2
S K J 7 5
H 3 2
C K Q 8 3
C 6 5 4
S 10
H A K J
C 10 7 6
D Q 6 4
C 9 8 3
S Q 9 3 1 3
H Q
D A 10 5 2
C A J 10

(Dealer: South. Neither side vulnerable).
How should South play for 3-Spades after West leads the singleton of his partner's bid diamonds?

Tomorrow's Problem

S 10 6
H 7 6
D A Q 5
C A J 9 5 2
S K 5 2
H A 10 9
D K J 9 6
C 8 3
S Q 8 4
H K J 8 4
D 8
C Q 8 7 4
S A J 7 3
H Q 5 3
D 10 7 4
C K 10 3

A BRITISH CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Desire earn- 13. Din.
2. catly. 15. Avoided.
3. Scatter. 18. Corrupt.
4. Bullfighter. 19. Attacked.
5. Reissue. 20. Attempt.
6. Shell hole. 21. Snuggle.
11. Secrecy.

Down

1. Caper. 12. Trenchery.
2. Lifeless. 13. Select.
3. Rally. 14. Ped.
4. Recollected. 15. Wrong.
5. Sprain. 17. Elude.
10. Unpaid.

Yesterday's Crossword

ACROSS—1. Rash. 4. Rapture. 8. Abet. 9. Crew. 10. Cordial. 11. Stun. 12. Idle. 14. Repress. 17. Rears. 19. Trail. 22. Spoiler. 20. Undo. 27. Ring. 28. Discard. 29. Grab. 30. Ours. 31. Restore. 32. Dose.

DOWN—3. Abrade. 5. Hower. 4. Recur. 6. Alms. 8. Tudor. 7. Reaps. 12. Larks. 13. Lame. 15. Elan. 16. Solo. 18. Terror. 20. Budge. 21. Ideals. 23. Polio. 24. Licit. 25. Budge.

PERON VICTORY

Buenos Aires, December 20. The Argentine President, General Peron, is already assured of a two-thirds majority in the Constituent Assembly which will meet here next January to revise the constitution. The result of the elections held on December 6 gave the Peronists 104 of the Assembly's 160 seats—Reuter.

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NEW DRUG TREATMENT IN BRONCHIAL ASTHMA

New York, December 21.

A group of Brooklyn physicians report striking results in the treatment of bronchial asthma with a new drug.

The drug, actually a combination of two drugs, is known as hydryllin and is described as the most effective found so far in the treatment of asthma.

The report comes from Drs. Harry Markow, Samuel Bloom, and Harry Leibowitz, of the Department of Medicine, Division of Applied Immunology, Beth-el Hospital. Results of their studies, reported in the New York State Journal of Medicine, are based on 81 cases of allergy, including 46 cases of bronchial asthma.

The drug, they report, is in tablet form. At the outset one tablet a day was given, and then the dosage was increased in some cases to six a day.

In a group of hay fever cases, 14, or 52 per cent, obtained definite relief.

In six cases of perennial, allergic rhinitis the results were disappointing, since in only one case was there any relief experienced.

"However, in the group of 36 asthmatics and 10 asthmatics complicated by or complicating nasal allergy, the results were decidedly better than have been experienced to date with other anti-histaminic drugs," they said.

The Reactions

An anti-histaminic drug apparently neutralizes the action of histamine, the suspect in the case of allergies.

The new drug, a combination of benadryl (a trade name) and aminophyllin, caused some unfavourable reactions in the patients including drowsiness.

THOREZ BOMBAST

Paris, December 21.

The Secretary General of the French Communist Party, M. Maurice Thorez, said in a speech at Limoges today: "We have said that we would never make war on the Soviet Union. If the Government tries to proceed against us because of this declaration it will prove that it is preparing for war."

"We shall remain Frenchmen who fight for peace and liberty. We shall never be the allies of the Germans and of the allies of France for an anti-Soviet crusade."—Reuter.

weakness and dizziness, but the benefits gained in most cases offset the bad effects.

"From evidence presented in this group of 81 cases," they said, "it can readily be seen that the chief value of hydryllin as an anti-histaminic agent will be in the treatment of bronchial asthma, either alone or when complicated by other types of allergy. "While the most striking results were noted in the treatment of bronchial asthma, hydryllin has also proved of some value in the treatment of hay fever."—United Press.

Socialised Medicine For Philippines?

Manila, December 21.

President Elipido Quirino proposes that the Philippines Government co-operate with physicians to introduce socialised medicine to the nation.

He addressed the fourth annual meeting of the Philippine College of Surgeons.

"I don't know whether poverty is the chief cause of illness or illness the chief cause of poverty," the chief executive said.

"But in either instance it is uneconomic, not to say inhuman, to continue witnessing illness without helping the sick to rehabilitate themselves."

"There is need for the Government and the practitioner to dovetail their efforts in order to reach the masses and thus democratise medical service."

President Quirino reminded the profession of its pledge to render medical aid without looking into the financial ability of the patient.

He cautioned: "Your mission of alleviating the sufferings of the masses will never be accomplished if you place financial consideration uppermost in your work."

Socialised medicine has been practiced with great success in other countries, President Quirino said.

He stated: "There is no reason why we cannot launch an aggressive crusade against disease in this country by devising a workable approach to the problem of dispensing socialised medicine."—Associated Press.

JAPANESE COMPLAINT

EXPORTS PARALYSED BY LACK OF TREATY

New York, December 21.

Japanese export trade will be paralysed until the question of war reparations is settled and the peace treaty signed.

Dr. Shichiro Matsui, Labour Relations expert, said this in an interview here today.

Poisoned The Victims First

Simla, December 21.

Thieves on the East Punjab railway were operating a new technique before they were found out and 14 of them arrested. Dressed in military uniforms, they offered poisoned food to military officers travelling alone in the higher class railway carriages, and after the victims became unconscious, they decamped with their belongings. — Associated Press.

Dr. Matsui is the first Japanese permitted to come to the United States to lecture since the war.

The Japanese Labour Standards Act of 1947 established minimum wages and maximum hours in many industries, he said.

This did much to end the era of cheap labour which before the war made Japan a formidable trade competitor.

"Employers now are trying to offset this by cutting their other industrial costs, but they are without capital. Both export and import trade now are controlled by a government agency and this does not make for speed," he stated.

Trade Hampered

"Japanese trade will have to wait for the signing of the peace treaty and agreement on reparations before there will be any real reconstruction and rehabilitation," he said.

"This is hampering Japanese trade to a great extent as manufacturers do not want to make plans until they know what their opportunities are for reviving trade."

Since the war Japan has imported cotton from the United States but can not find a market for her manufactured goods, he continued. India is getting into the textile market, he said, and China is still producing with cheap labour.

"However," he added, "we feel in Japan we will be able to compete with India and China by concentrating on the manufacture of finer goods."

Unions Organised

Dr. Matsui has been a labour relations adviser, both for the Allied and Japanese governments. Democratization of Japan

will necessarily be a long process but important strides in that direction are being made under the occupation, he stated. It will take some years to break down the feudalistic concepts in Japan toward labour and industrial relations, he said.

However, he pointed out that in three years, over 6,500,000 workers have been organized in 35,000 local trade unions and General Douglas MacArthur has encouraged this trend.

Meanwhile, in Washington today the 11-nation Far Eastern Commission formally approved the formation of unions, co-operatives and other organizations by Japanese farmers.

The Commission sets basic policies for the occupation of Japan.

The Commission advised that the policy take effect gradually so as to safeguard the immediate economic needs and prevent avoidable dislocation of food control measures.

The statement said farmers should be encouraged to form organizations for their economic and social benefit with full protection of occupational authorities and the Japanese Government. They should be organized along democratic lines and be able to admit persons who are not genuine farmers.—Associated Press.

Japanese Strikers Go Back

Tokyo, December 21.

Japan's striking labour unions were the first to feel the effects of Washington's nine-point austerity programme yesterday when Mr. Chester Hopler, Chief of SCAP's Labour Section, summoned leaders of electric workers, seamen, coalminers and private railway workers unions and advised them to call off their strikes.

The meeting between the Labour Chief and representatives of unions occurred yesterday morning.

Late last night, the Seamen's Union, taking Mr. Hopler's advice, informed the Ministry of Transportation of its decision to accept the mediation plan formulated by the Central Labour Relations Board, and immediately ordered members back to work.

Yesterday was the tenth consecutive day of the maritime strike and the seventeenth strike day since the wave of tie-ups began on November 29.—Reuter.

PALESTINE WAR IS OVER

New York, December 21.

Dr. Ralph Bunche, acting United Nations mediator in Palestine, declared today that the war in Palestine is over.

Dr. Bunche arrived from Europe and said, "I'd say the war in Palestine is over. Any fighting going on there is only local incidents. The problem of Palestine is well on the way to final solution. The Jewish State is firmly established and the immigration problem also well on the way to solution."—United Press.

HIGH COMMISSIONERS TO RANK AS ENVOYS

London, December 20.

Canada, India and South Africa announced today that Commonwealth High Commissioners in their capitals will rank as Ambassadors.

Hitherto, the High Commissioners have ranked behind the foreign Ambassadors on formal occasions.

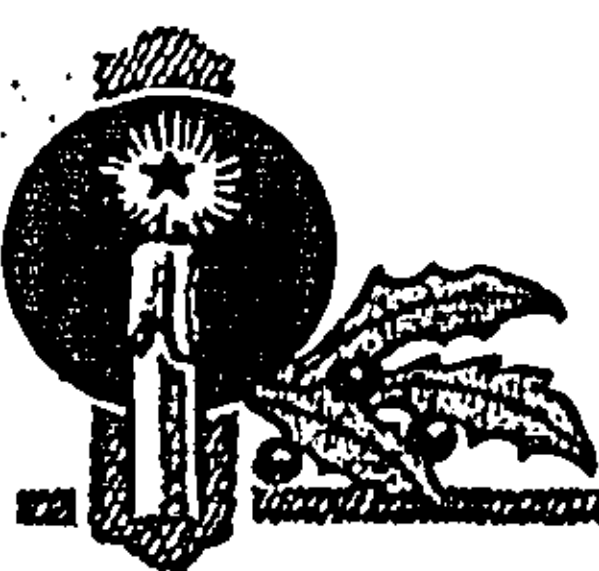
The Commonwealth Prime Ministers at the London Conference in October agreed that their status should be raised and made recommendations which were not disclosed at the time.

The South African Government said that the new arrangement will come into force on January 1.

All the announcements said that the position of the dozen of the Diplomatic Corps would still be held by the senior foreign Ambassador.

The High Commissioners will take precedence as if they had the rank of Ambassadors when they first arrived, and will not follow seniority of Commonwealth countries.—Reuter.

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"TOKYO ROSE" IN TREASON TRIAL

San Francisco, December 21.

Additional arguments on a motion to dismiss the treason indictment against Mrs. Iva Toguri d'Aquino were heard in Federal court today.

Mrs. d'Aquino is also known as one of the "Tokyo Roses" of wartime propaganda broadcasts from Japan.

Her attorney, Wayne Collins, argued that Mrs. d'Aquino is being placed in double jeopardy because she has served a prison term in Japan, that the statute of limitations is operative in her case, and that the United States is without jurisdiction because she is a Portuguese citizen through marriage.

The Government attorney, Tom Do Wolfe, contended that the

questions of double jeopardy and statute of limitations are not matters for pre-trial decision, that the question of whether she owes allegiance to the United States and thus can be guilty of treason is for a jury to decide, and that six of the overt acts charged against her occurred before her marriage to d'Aquino, a citizen of Portugal.

Further memorandums and briefs will be filed by the attorneys today before the court takes the motion under consideration.—Associated Press.

NOTICE

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It is a matter of regret to us that our arrangements preclude us from retailing to the public any "Camel" Brand Vacuum Flasks but in view of the many requests we have received during the current Exhibition of Chinese Products, we have arranged to put on sale at our stall a limited quantity at special prices which will be available to the public from 18th December until sold out.

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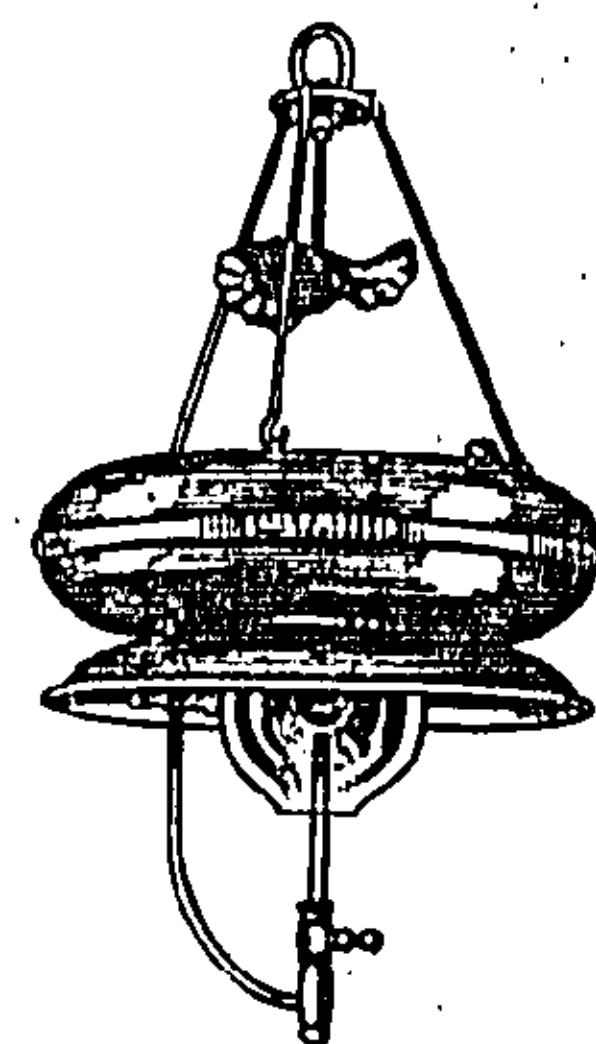
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TIENTSIN PREPARES

DEFENCES ERECTED IN
FORMER ITALIAN AREA
CATHOLIC CHURCH
NOW FORTRESS

Tientsin, December 21.

The first line of Tientsin's defences is being constructed along the main street of the former Italian concession which runs parallel to the Tientsin-Poiping railway line one block away. Reuter's correspondent toured this district and witnessed alarming scenes which indicate that the relative peace which some dihedrals enjoy besides their fireplaces may receive a rude shock.

All cross-roads leading from the railway line towards the main thoroughfare with its beautiful Romanesque buildings have been blocked with recently-felled trees and wiring has been stretched across thickly from wall to wall.

Facing these blocked approaches into the heart of the city, sandbags are rapidly taking the shape of machine-gun nests.

The South side of this wide avenue, along which a trolley line transported the city's bread earners, by the hundreds of thousands, is being fenced off with wiring while additional emplacements for guns have appeared through the walls and gates of buildings irrespective of their destination.

This citadel embraces even the Italian Catholic Hospital, and the annex of the church, which is being turned into defence points despite all endeavours to prevent transforming them into targets.

Church Fortress

The consular body had a meeting regarding the prevailing conditions last night without releasing any statement. Among the officials present were the representatives of the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland.

The gridded gateway of the Catholic church has been filled with sandbags amidst which gun loopholes are evident, while the former pharmacy of the Italian Hospital is completely transformed into an oversized pillbox with its single storey roof bristling with military activity.

The Italian Consulate, in which Baron Tallarigo resides, seems to be in the direct path, of the strong points just across the street.

Incidentally, Baron Tallarigo inspired the Italian community to turn their beautiful club into an emergency hospital and maternity ward for incoming Chinese refugees.

Deep In City

Some nurses from the Italian Catholic Hospital volunteered to undertake extra work and are already tending the first baby born at the transformed club's threshold yesterday. The refugee mother noticed the newly-painted Red Cross but collapsed in the gateway and gave birth on its very steps.

Observers wondered why the first line of defence is being constructed well inside the city's towering edifices, beneath the shadows of which it is apparently intended to meet the invaders, instead of going through the same preparations on the outskirts or the perimeter.

There are indications of additional defences and strong points being erected even deeper inside Tientsin, presumably to serve as a second line of defence which presages street fighting—along streets inhabited by foreigners and originally constructed through foreign enterprise and investment.

The Oldest
Appendix Out

Horsham, December 20. Mrs. Eliza Hammond of Horsham, aged 91, is recovering from an operation for appendicitis. She is believed to be the oldest person to survive such an operation. She is making good progress and it is expected that she will leave hospital early in the New Year.—Reuter.

Destruction
Of Rubber
In Malaya

Destruction of 2,030 acres of excellent rubber in Malaya was reported at the annual general meeting of the Klang Rubber Company, Limited, on Monday.

The report of the company showed a loss of £631.12.7. for the year ended December 31, 1947.

Present at the meeting were: Mr. W. A. Welch (Chairman), Messrs. H. Kadoorie, A. E. Fenton (Directors), Mr. C. F. Abbas (representing the Secretaries and General Managers, J. A. Wattie and Company, Limited), and Shareholders representing 31,500 shares.

The Chairman's report follows: "The reported destruction of the Klang Estate which consisted in 1941 of 2,030 acres of excellent rubber, a large proportion of which had been replanted between 1934 and 1941, is a most serious matter for the Company. Until this property becomes accessible to the Agents of the Company, no decision can be made in respect of its future.

"You will see from the Directors' Report that 234 acres were damaged or destroyed. The rubber remaining is very good, with a high proportion of budgrasses and clonal seedlings. It is intended to plant up the area destroyed as soon as possible, but there is a great dearth of planting material in Java at the moment, and it may be a year before a start can be made.

"In the meantime, investigations are being carried out with a view to planting some catch crop, such as peanuts, on this area, so as to obtain some additional revenue until it is possible to plant rubber. Production is increasing each month, and the estimate for the year 1949 is 600,000 pounds which is most satisfactory, and is more than was ever produced before the war.

"The chances of compensation for war damage or subsequent damage are, I am afraid, rather doubtful. The political situation in Java is still very obscure, and in certain areas the security position has deteriorated. The present deadlock must be resolved, as it means that a large part of a very rich and productive area of Java is out of commission, but the chances of a peaceful settlement do not look too hopeful.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Annual Race Meeting, 1949

Saturday 15th, Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th and Saturday 22nd January.

The First Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. and the first race will be run at 12.00 noon, each day. The tiffin interval is after the fourth race (1.30 p.m.).

There are 10 races each day (50 in all). The "Hong Kong Derby" is scheduled to be run on the third day, Tuesday, 18th January, at 3.30 p.m.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10 per day including tax are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such Member, to be responsible for all this etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurers' Comptroller's Office and the Secretary's Office will close at 10 a.m. each day. Both Offices at 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of tiffins will be obtainable at the Club House provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 27818).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE. The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3 each day including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers' Ties. Tax men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Servants' passes will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY, who are requested to distribute them with discrimination and to endorse their names on the passes. Holders of such passes are not permitted to enter the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties and must remain in their employers' stands.

BY ORDER,

C. B. BROWN, Secretary.

BESIEGED PEIPING IS
BRAVE BUT UNEASY

Peiping, December 21.

Peiping under siege is a brave but uneasy city. There is no telling when the warfare on its outskirts may surge within the massive walls which now make this historic ground they enclose a refuge for well over 2,000,000 persons.

Everywhere in the city there are military encampments protected by barbed wire or even pointed stakes, a medieval and probably none too effective substitute.

Emplacements have been dug in many alleys and as a consequence they are impassable by car.

Sandbags protect the police stations and other official buildings, both civil and military. Soldiers keep a constant guard from the city's walls. Embroideries have been chiselled in the picture battlefields for fire to be directed against the Reds if they come within range.

Red Christmas

A 10.00 p.m. curfew and the impossibility of getting, a rickshaw or taxi after that time have curtailed local life. The foreigners are divided into two classes—those unashamedly nervous about the future and those who affect or genuinely feel nonchalant.

The latter refer to the situation with a certain levity, the sort of levity which inspired the parody song entitled "I'm Dreaming of a Red Christmas."

Peiping's sense of isolation has increased since the railway to Tientsin was cut. Telephone service has now also gone. Radio is the city's only contact with the outside world.

The Reds now are in a position to divert a good part of their strength in Manchuria and North China to a reinforced drive toward Nanking and Shanghai.

They have Fu Tso-yi bottled up in Peiping with his supply and escape routes out and can contain his troops with a relatively light force. They can see the long stretches of the Peiping-Hankow and Tientsin-Pukow railroads for transfer of troops South.

Red Currency

Trustworthy reports say they are operating these lines from points less than 40 miles from Peiping on a line to Hankow and from about the same line to Pukow and across the Yangtze from Nanking. Semi-official Nationalist sources say some of Lin Piao's forces

from Manchuria already have passed Peiping on the Peiping-Hankow line on their way South. Reds are already using their own currency in the Red territory around Peiping. Travellers have brought some banknotes into Peiping as souvenirs. They are crudely printed on crude paper.

Despite the uncertain future ahead for Peiping there have been no further applications by Americans for facilities to leave. Of 789 Americans previously in this district there are now 255 left. Of that number 87 are consular and ECA employees and dependents.

Newsmen Trapped

There are also four correspondents who came from Nanking for a day's trip but now seem destined to be here when the Reds arrive. Harold Milles, of the Associated Press, one of the four newsmen, reports that "temporarily marooned" is more descriptive of their position than "trapped". In an emergency they could be flown out at any time from the newly constructed Polo Ground airfield. But the chances one would have to take sailing off that little airstrip are worse than those of capture by the Reds.—Associated Press.

Dead Woman In
Mine Shaft

Wakefield, December 20.

The inquest was opened and adjourned today on the body of a woman recovered from a disused flooded ventilation shaft at Walton Colliery near Wakefield.

It was stated that the body was floating in water 120 feet from the top of the shaft. The shaft was covered with boards which were nailed down and the trap door was also securely fastened with six inch nails.

The body was discovered when an inspection was made by means of a light being lowered down the shaft, and preliminary reports suggest that the body had been in the water from one to five years.—Reuter.

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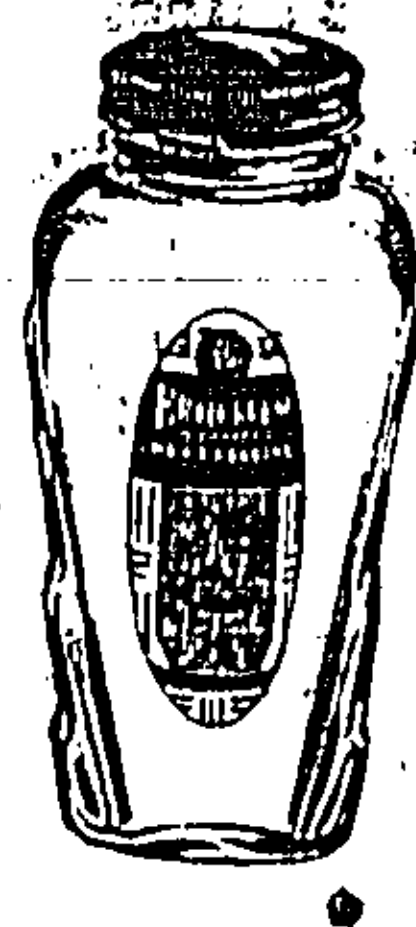
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GENERAL CLAY'S HOPES FOR WESTERN GERMANY

Berlin, December 21.

General Lucius D. Clay says he still hopes Western Germany will have a federal government by the middle of 1949.

The American Military Governor is confident that the Governments of the three Western Powers soon will reach agreement on the occupation statute which will serve the Western zones as a substitute peace treaty.

"We were already remarkably close to agreement," Clay said, referring to his Frankfurt conference last week with the French and British Military Governors. Two points, he said, were left to be settled by Washington, London and Paris.

"One point still unresolved," Clay said, "is whether a central government will pay occupation costs, thereby obtaining more financial authority, or whether this will be left to the separate states as the French want. The other point is whether a German will sit in on an Allied board to arbitrate questions arising from the statute. The French do not want that."

"But I think these are issues which can be ironed out without great delay by the three Governments. Perhaps it is only a matter of weeks."

Ahead Of The Russians

General Clay and the British GOC, General Sir Brian Robertson, have set a tentative timetable for West German political development in 1949. According to this, the draft of a constitution is to be completed by the German Assembly at Bonn by New Year's Day. A federal Government is to be established by May 1.

Clay said there was nothing iron-clad about the timetable. "I still hope there won't be a lag of more than a few weeks in the target dates," he added. "He minimised the possible political effects if Russia sets up an

East German Government in the spring. "All it would really amount to is a zonal Government, and we have been far ahead of the Russians in such matters in the West", he said.—Associated Press.

Abdullah Names A New Mufti

London, December 20.

King Abdullah of Transjordan announced today that he has appointed a new Mufti of Jerusalem.

The new Mufti will be a rival to Haj Amin El Husseini for 25 years generally accepted leader of the Palestine Arabs. King Abdullah's declared policy is to unify his country with Arab Palestine.

Haj Amin is the power behind the throne in the so-called Gaza Government of Palestine Arabs which has been recognised by the Arab League States.

King Abdullah named Sheikh Hassan Meddin Jarallah, former Chief Justice of the Moslem religious courts in Palestine, as the new Mufti.

Sheikh Jarallah has been a prominent political opponent of the Mufti for a long time.

Awni Abdul Hadi resigned today as Minister of Social Affairs in the All-Palestine Gaza Government, sending his resignation to King Abdullah by telegraph.

Tattooed Man Mystery

St. Albans, December 20.

Scotland Yard now believe that a tattooed man whose body was found under the walls of a nunnery near St. Albans, may have been involved in a death struggle not far from the scene.

Police inquiries are being concentrated on three or possibly four men who, at 10.30 p.m. on Saturday, were heard arguing noisily.

The strangest feature of the murder which is still puzzling the police is the removal of the victim's coat and trousers.—Reuter.

LONDON BRIBE INQUIRY

SCANDAL WON'T AFFECT LABOUR GOVERNMENT

London, December 20.

The Attorney General, Sir Hartley Shawcross, said here today that it is dangerously short-sighted and superficial to believe the six-weeks' old official inquiry into alleged corruption in public life will have a damaging effect on the present Government.

Sir Hartley was making his closing speech at the Tribunal which has become Britain's most talked of subject.

Declaring that the real danger of such a probe was that it might tend to undermine public confidence, not in a particular politician, but in a form of government, he said the public were entitled to be reassured that never before had any Government been more determined to vindicate and maintain the highest traditions of public life.

Later, Sir Hartley indicated that because of inquiry Parliament might consider tightening the laws on bankruptcy, changing of names, and the exchange of gifts in connection with business transactions.

Sir Hartley submitted that there had not been a shred of evidence suggesting corruption by civil servants involved in the investigations. He wished he could say the same for each of the Ministers and public men involved.

One danger of the inquiry, he warned, was that it might tend to exacerbate racial animosities. One of the central figures in the case had been a Jew named Sidney Stanley. It followed that many of those with whom he associated were members of the Jewish community. Possibly some were not of particularly good repute, but Jews in general formed a valued part of Britain's political community.

Tangled Web

Stanley, he said, remained the central figure around which the whole tangled web had been spun. He would not claim they had succeeded entirely in unweaving it. Some matters remained very obscure. The Tribunal might come to the conclusion that Stanley was a racist. But he had other qualities—considerable ability, personality and quick wit. Very likely he had considerable and real qualities of kindness and generosity.

Sir Hartley said he was compelled to suggest that Stanley had pursued a fraudulent life. "His mendacity and exhibitionism, the Tribunal may think, were almost pathological. The greater the rascal you conclude him to be the more likely it is that, given the opportunity, he

Heart In Politics

Counsel for Sir Belcher said he did not believe that Stanley was a person of whose friendship he ought to be ashamed.

If the astute politician, Mr. Hugh Dalton (former Chancellor of the Exchequer) and the astute trade unionist, Mr. George Gimson, had been taken in by Stanley's urbanity and vanity, was it to be supposed that a young Minister of 43 was negligent in this respect?

Counsel said he would dismiss as gossip and rumour the testimony that Belcher had said he was looking for a job as the Government would not always be in power.

There had been no question of Isaac Wolfson, millionaire chief of the Great Universal Stores, offering Belcher a directorship or of Belcher accepting one. "Mr. Belcher's heart is in politics, and it is his great desire to remain in politics," his counsel said.

Three Foolish Things

He said Belcher had been undoubtedly foolish in three things.

1. To accept gifts from people who had official dealings with the Board of Trade.
2. Not going at once to the President of the Board of Trade or the Prime Minister when he heard of the allegation being made against him.
3. Writing a letter to the Lords Chancellor, Britain's highest legal authority, which

would not have shrunk from attempting to corrupt those with whom he came in contact.

Counsel for Mr. John Belcher, former Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, said today that his client was not a man who went in for orgies of any description.

No Orgies

Referring to a Jewish birthday party which Sidney Stanley gave for Mr. Belcher, counsel said it had made no sense to appear that Stanley's association with Belcher, Belcher indulged in Lucullan feasts and possibly also drunken orgies.

But for eighteen years Belcher had suffered from intestinal trouble and rich food was a nightmare to him. The birthday party obviously was a magnificent affair—but not for Belcher.

Commenting on Stanley's frequent visit to Mr. Belcher at the Board of Trade, counsel said: "Ministers are not in glass cases with 'Do Not Touch' labels. They are servants of the people."

Counsel described Harry Sherman, chief of Britain's third largest football pool competition, as cold, crafty and malevolent. He contended that the Tribunal could not safely believe one word of his evidence.

It was Sherman who testified that Stanley had spoken of giving bribes to Belcher to win his influence in having the Board of Trade prosecution against the Sherman firm dropped.

Christmas Boom For London

London, December 20.

Christmas has brought the year's biggest boom to the Port of London. For the first time for years no dockers or stevedores who reports for work is being turned away.

Thousands of dockers are working overtime tonight and every night of the week.—Reuter

did not fully or accurately set out the whole matter. Counsel ended his 90-minute speech by saying: "I invite this Tribunal to find that the boast of this country as to honest administration may still be the boast of this country notwithstanding the indiscretions of Belcher."

"Red Herring"

Counsel for Isaac Wolfson said there had been nothing improper in politicians visiting his client's office. Wolfson had been visited by hundreds of people interested in the art of running an enormous business such as the Great Universal Stores.

He declared he saw no reason for production to the Tribunal of three receipts concerning £1,000 paid to Stanley. They were three red herrings.

Chairman: "Three red herrings designed to conceal the true arrangement between Mr. Wolfson and Stanley." Counsel submitted the three receipts were due to some arrangement between persuasive Stanley and the firm's secretary. There was no evidence to suggest that Mr. Wolfson had given gifts or asked favours of anyone.

The Tribunal adjourned until tomorrow with the Attorney General's speech still unfinished.—Reuter.

"I couldn't"

concentrate on anything.."



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FIRST CASE OF ITS KIND

Ellisville, December 21.

A 23-year-old Navy veteran was under conviction today for miscegenation, and the District Attorney, Paul Swartzfager, said he believed it was the first time in Mississippi's history.

The miscegenation law, which stems from the State Constitution of 1890, forbids marriage or cohabitation between white persons and those with one eighth or more Negro or Mongolian blood.

Davis Knight, who served in the Navy as a white man and married a white girl, was convicted under the law and sentenced to five years in the State Penitentiary. He has filed notice of appeal.—Associated Press.

BLANKET OF SNOW FOR NEW YORK

New York, December 20.
At least 17 died in the great snow storm which struck New York and the New England States during the week-end.

Five died in New York City, five in New Jersey and seven in New England. Six other deaths were reported from other parts of the country.

The 19½-inch snow blanket which covered New York—the third heaviest in the city's history failed to halt its bustling life but the city's two great airports remained snowbound.

Idlewild airport was later reopened to traffic, but La Guardia remained snowbound.

City-workers from outlying areas were held up but they nearly all got to work.

It will take days to clear up all the side streets and New York seems destined to have a white Christmas and possibly a white New Year.—Reuter.

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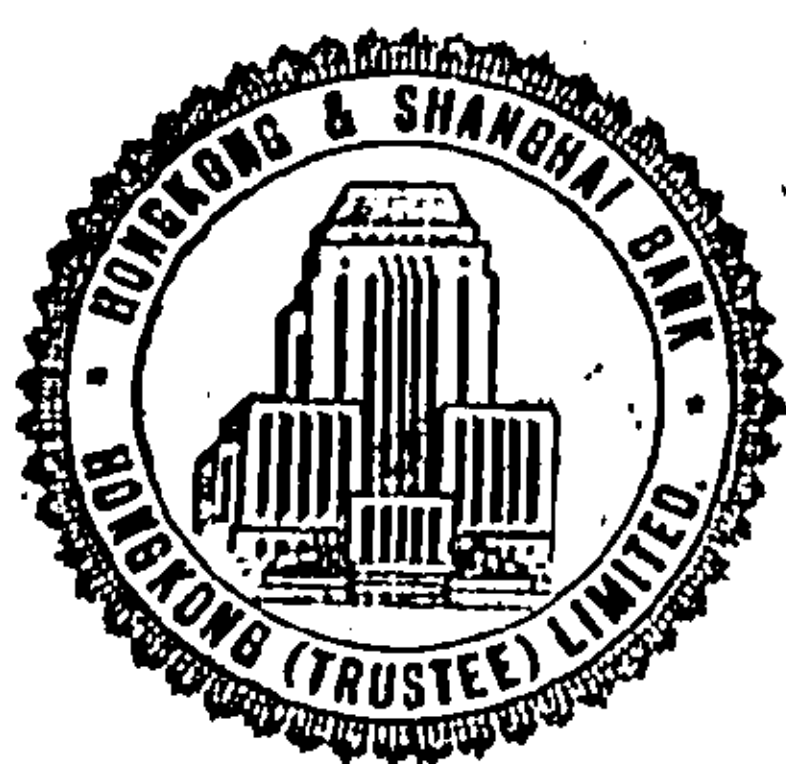
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INDIES CRISIS

PRESSURE ON U.S. TO SUPPORT INDONESIA AMERICANS ASKED TO CUT ERP AID

Washington, December 20.

Strong diplomatic pressure was brought to bear on the United States today to condemn the Dutch "police action" in Indonesia and to support the Indonesian Republicans.

The Australian, Indian and Republican representatives hastily arranged interviews with Mr. Robert Lovett, the acting Secretary of State, throughout the day.

The Australian and Indian Ambassadors are known to be sympathetic to the Republic whose representative, Dr. Soemitro, stated bluntly that he had appealed for American political and economic support and asked the United States to cut off Marshall aid to The Netherlands.

The threat to cut Marshall aid was not taken seriously by Netherlands Embassy officials here. They said that Dr. Alan Valentine, chief of the United States Marshall aid mission in the Netherlands, had recently passed on assurances from the Netherlands Government that no Marshall Plan commodities had been used to supply arms, ammunition or other military equipment to the Dutch forces in Indonesia.

Whether any action is taken, the events in Indonesia are certain to result in an interruption and possible revision of authorisations to the Netherlands East Indies, already issued by the Economic Co-operation Administration, for various types of goods.

Netherlands Embassy officials also claimed that the first reactions in the American press to the Dutch action had been more sympathetic than on earlier occasions when the Indonesian question was the subject of widespread editorial comment.

The fact that Mr. Lovett saw the Indonesian representative at all was considered to be a gesture of sympathy for the Republicans because Dr. Soemitro has been in Washington for some time without having an official interview with him.

Fight To Continue

State Department spokesmen themselves declined to comment on the Indonesian situation, pointing out that the American attitude would be presented to the Security Council on Wednesday.

Dr. Soemitro told reporters he had informed Mr. Lovett that the Indonesian Government will continue strong resistance to the Dutch even though its top leaders have been captured and are being held by the Dutch.

The Government will function from Duckittinggi, on the Island of Sumatra, he said. "If that is captured, the Government will move elsewhere. As long as we have territory under our control, we will have our Government there. As a last resort we will set up a Government in exile."

Dr. Soemitro is Minister of Foreign Trade and Financial Affairs of the Indonesian Republic. He is also head of the Republican delegation to the UN Security Council.

Guerrilla War

Dr. Soemitro told reporters he has been in touch with the Indonesian Government.

"We are prepared to carry on protracted guerrilla warfare," he said. "Very soon you will see a series of counter-attacks on the Dutch from the mountains. I know our captured leaders will never give up the fight."

Sternist Leader's Denial

Acre, December 20.

Nathan Friedman Yellin, alleged chief of the Stern Gang, solemnly swore at his trial at Acre today that he played no part in the assassination of the United Nations Palestine Mediator, Count Folke Bernadotte.

With upraised hands, he said: "Under oath I declare I never took part in the decision to kill Bernadotte."

Asked by the prosecution for his opinion of Count Bernadotte, Yellin said: "I am more sorry for each child killed in Jerusalem owing to Bernadotte who starved the city and caused its shelling."

He admitted that the group to which he had belonged had a secret tribunal to pass death sentences on "traitors."

The prosecutor, referring to a pamphlet stated to have been issued by the Stern Gang, said to Yellin: "You wrote 'Bernadotte executed.'"

"It was a slip of the tongue," Yellin replied.—Reuter.

on the Netherlands' participation in the ECA.

"Independence in Asia and colonial areas is the hallmark of the future. Those who run counter to the tide must take their own chances as to the effects. We can only hope that the Dutch will proceed in this spirit."

The resumption of hostilities, he continued, is very unfortunate and may have the most serious repercussions on European recovery on the basis of the Marshall Plan with which the stability of the East Indies is so intimately tied.—Reuter, Associated Press and United Press.

Fateful Events

The envoy said the Dutch attack apparently came as a complete surprise to the State Department as well as to the Jakarta regime.

Dr. Soemitro said: "We are witnessing only the beginning of a whole chain of fateful events. Now I know how you Americans felt after Pearl Harbor."

In New York, United States Congressman Jacob K. Javits warned that the Dutch attack may have serious repercussions

Anti-Dutch Mood In Philippines

Manila, December 21.

Indignation mounted in the Philippines today on the Dutch police action in Indonesia.

The action stirred more anti-Dutch feeling here than has been seen at any time in the past two years.

President Elpidio Quirino ordered a memorandum to be prepared on the background of the Indonesian issue before issuing a statement on Government policy.

University students began a move to boycott Dutch citizens and officials in the Philippines and fixed demonstrations at all universities and schools.

The Manila press fumed. "The outspoken Filipino-owned Chronicle said: 'All Asia and the free world should be aroused to action by this perfidious and insolence of the Dutch in Indonesia.'"

"A fifth rate power, whose own existence depends upon the sacredness of international agreements, the Netherlands has undertaken brazenly and shamelessly a war of aggression against a people who happen to be even weaker materially."

The American-owned Manila Bulletin said, "Millions of people in Asia, millions in Europe and more millions in North and South America will fail to see

Australian Dockers May Reimpose Ban

Sydney, December 20.

The Executive Committee of the Dock Workers Union, the Waterside Workers Federation, is to meet tomorrow to consider reimposing their ban on working Dutch ships in view of the developments in Indonesia.

The Abbecker, at present, the only Dutch ship in Sydney Harbour, got wharf labour today without difficulty. Australian dock workers and seamen refused to handle Dutch shipping when fighting first developed between the Dutch and Indonesians in 1945.

A conference of Australasian trade unions on August 5, 1947, completely banned the movement of all Dutch goods in Australia pending a decision of the United Nations. The ban was not lifted until last June.—Reuter.

"Indonesia Now A Sovereign State"

Washington, December 20.

A spokesman for the Indonesian Republic today said his Government now considers itself a sovereign state and will act accordingly.

Dr. Soemitro, ranking Indonesian representative in the United States, told the United Press: "By their own action the Dutch have formally abrogated the Renville Agreement."

"Therefore, we consider ourselves an independent and sovereign state and will carry on in that status to the best of our abilities."

"The Dutch action dangerously impairs the interest not only of Indonesia but all South East Asia and will have serious repercussions for Western Europe and the United States of America."

"This action is the culmination of Dutch bad faith throughout the entire negotiations for settlement of the dispute. We charge the Dutch with sabotaging the efforts of the Good Offices Committee and the United States State Department, who have valiantly attempted to bring about peaceful settlement of the Dutch-Indonesian dispute."

"The Republic of Indonesia has always been ready to accept, and has in fact accepted formally, all suggestions made by the Good Offices Committee of the United Nations."

"The Dutch, on the other hand, by procrastination, delay and bad faith, have constantly blocked efforts of the Good Offices Committee. We appeal to the United States Government to cut off ECA funds to the Dutch. This money is now being diverted by the Dutch for military purposes in Indonesia at the rate of US\$1,000,000 daily."

The Dutch have officially denied using ECA funds for military purposes in Indonesia.

Flat Denial

The Indonesian representative flatly denied formal Dutch charges that the Republican Government had been unable to enforce its will in its own areas.

"We reply that the Dutch could not restore law and order in areas occupied by them since July 1947, such as West Java," he said.

He also denied Dutch charges of Republican infiltration into



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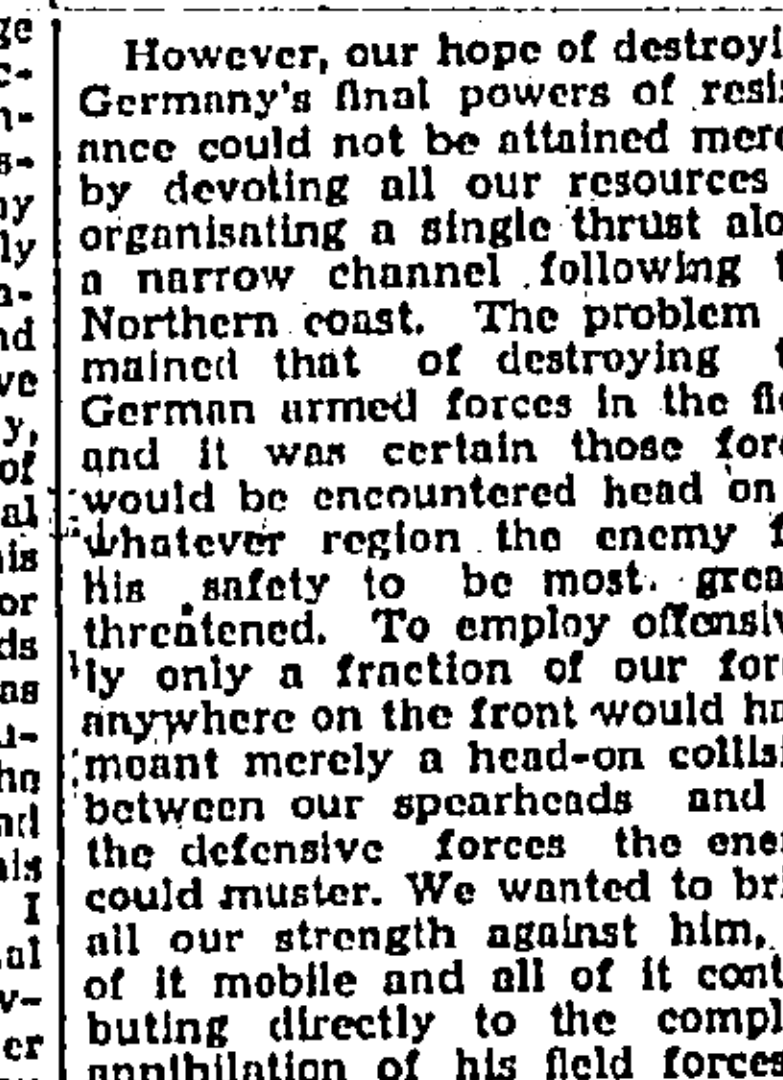
Queen's Building Tel. 20051 (3 lines)

Meanwhile production and exports, after a steady uphill climb which astonished the world, are levelling off into what the "Economist" has named an "economic plateau". The reason is not that exports are meeting sales resistance. It is that production is not yet flexible enough to expand the output of those goods for which there is a clamouring overseas demand. The United

In February Sir Stafford Cripps asked for a voluntary stabilisation of wages, profits and dividends. Undoubtedly his request, backed by a powerful publicity campaign, applied the brake at a moment when inflation threatened to gather momentum. This has slowed down though not altogether stopped the rise in wages and profits. Total net personal incomes have almost certainly been increasing slowly but surely. One sign of this is the steady rise in bank deposits. Taken over 12 months, this rise is due as much as about one half to borrowing by the Government and the other half to increased commercial loans. Business has been borrowing more from the banks, to finance stock and maintain working capital at rising price levels. The sounds reasonable enough to the banker, but it is only another way of saying that business, like many of the workers, is still evading the economic justisms which the Government is trying to enforce.

Our team acquired an important member with the arrival of George Patton, whose transfer from the Mediterranean I had asked. Sometimes he would spend

During my investigation George came to see me and in his typically generous and emotional fashion offered to resign his commission so as to relieve me of any embarrassment. When I told him that I would not permit a determination to drop the whole matter after such a long delay, he decided to retain him as the prospective commander of the Third Army. He was stirred to the point of tears. At such moments General Eisenhower revealed a certain make-up that was difficult for anyone except his intimate friends to understand. His remorse was very great, not only for the trouble he had caused me but also for the fact that he had so vehemently criticized me to his associates when he thought it might relieve him. His emotional range was very great and he lived at either one end or the other of it. I judged that the world would see his victories; pay off the world will deem me a "winner."



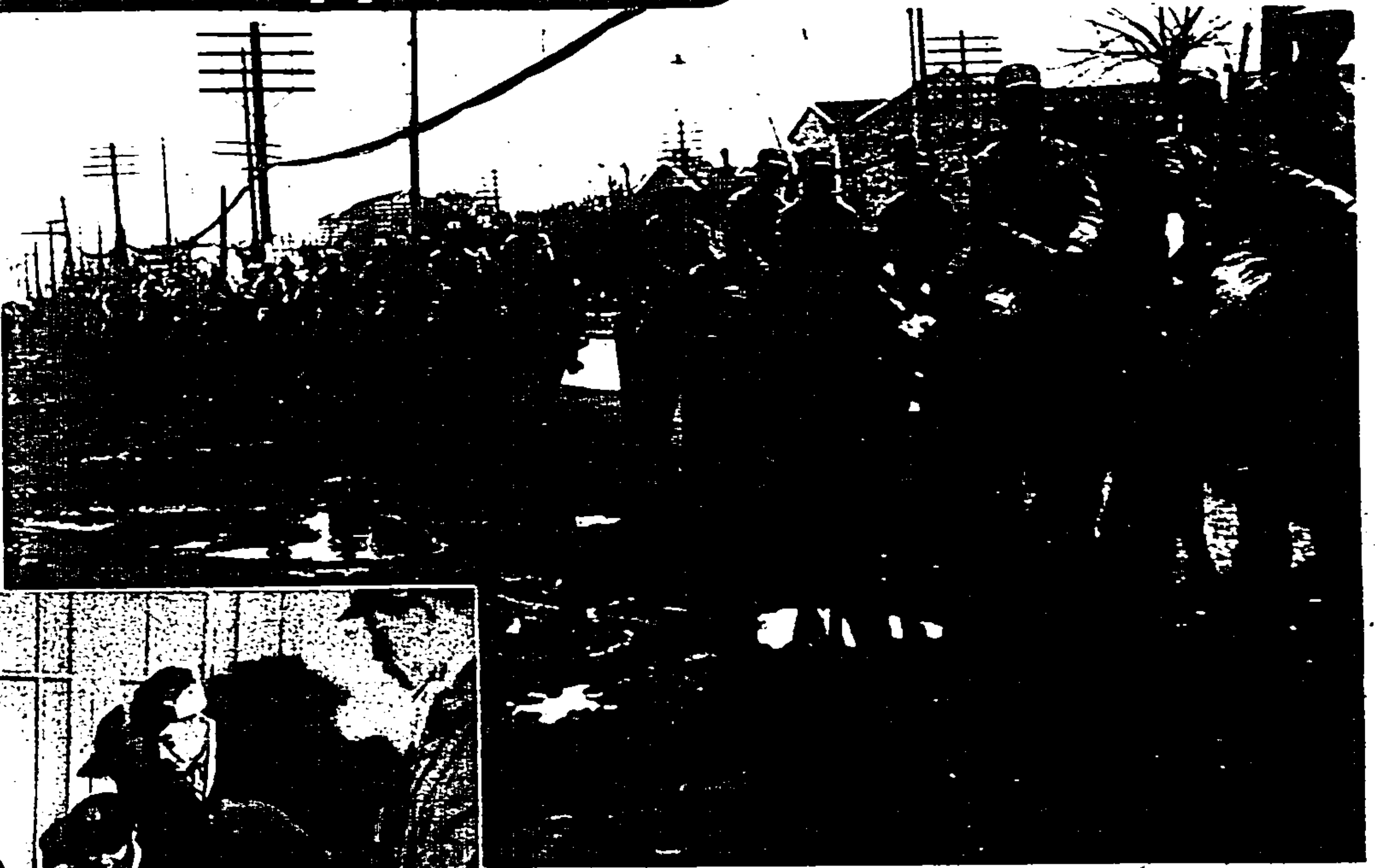
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CHINA MAIL Supplement

BELEAGUERED NANKING

Armoured columns, mounted troops, heavily-burdened soldiery and the clatter of gun carriages are commonplace in Nanking today, as Communist forces move closer to the capital. All is quiet as these troops on wiry ponies patrol the icy streets, but they are likely to have sterner duties soon. (All photos shown are from Associated Press.)



Chinese Air Force pilots flying bombing missions from Nanking relax in their headquarters.

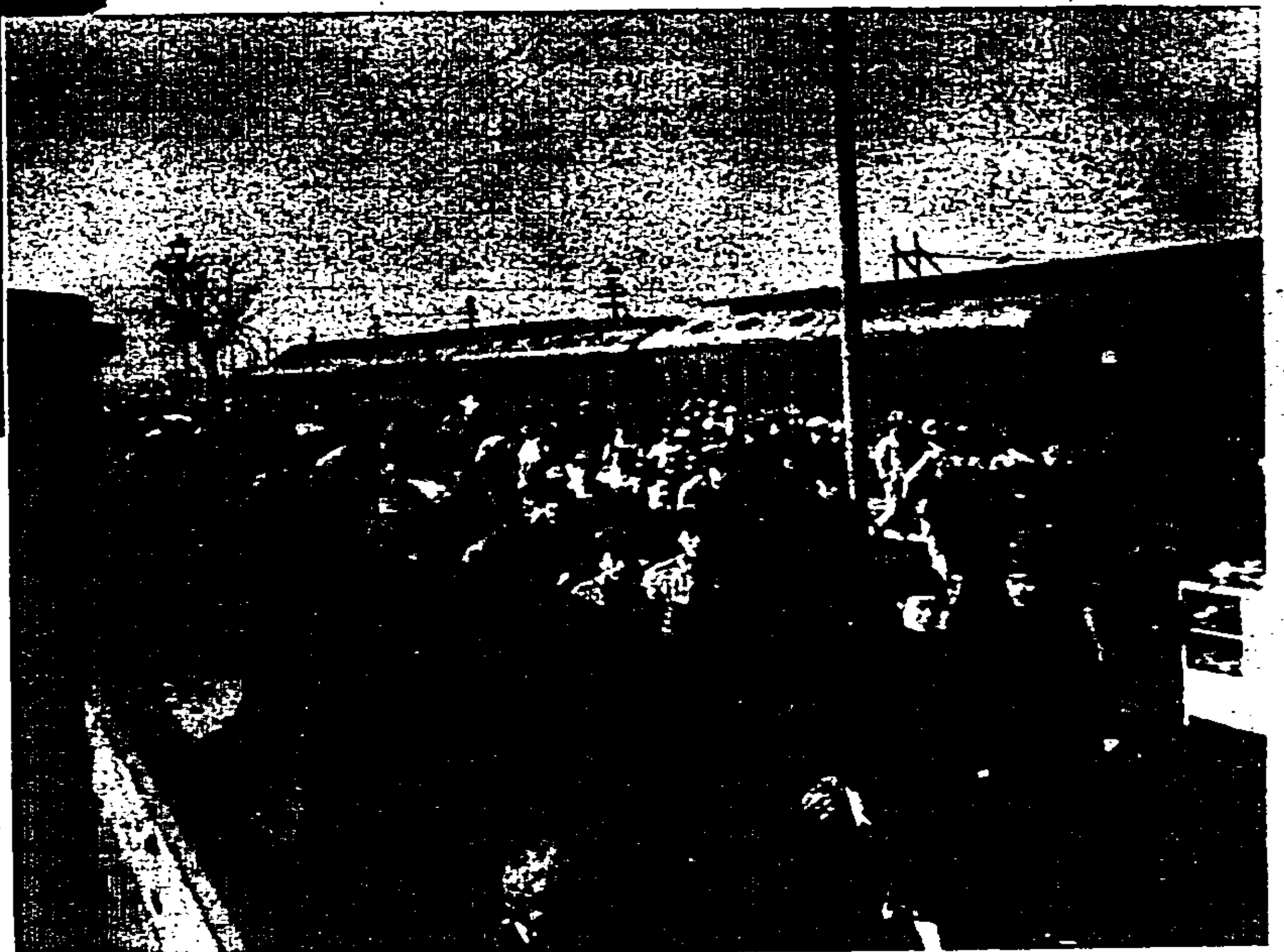


Nationalist soldiers leave Pukow railway station on their way North to reinforce Government troops facing the Communist armies.



Forgetting the grim struggle, the rough roads frozen by biting winds, the poor food and the hopelessness of the battle areas, this Nationalist soldier on his way to the North plays happily with a baby in Pukow.

As troops entrain for the battle zone, refugees en route to the South stream in constant procession towards the relative safety of Nanking, from where they will move further as soon as transport is available.



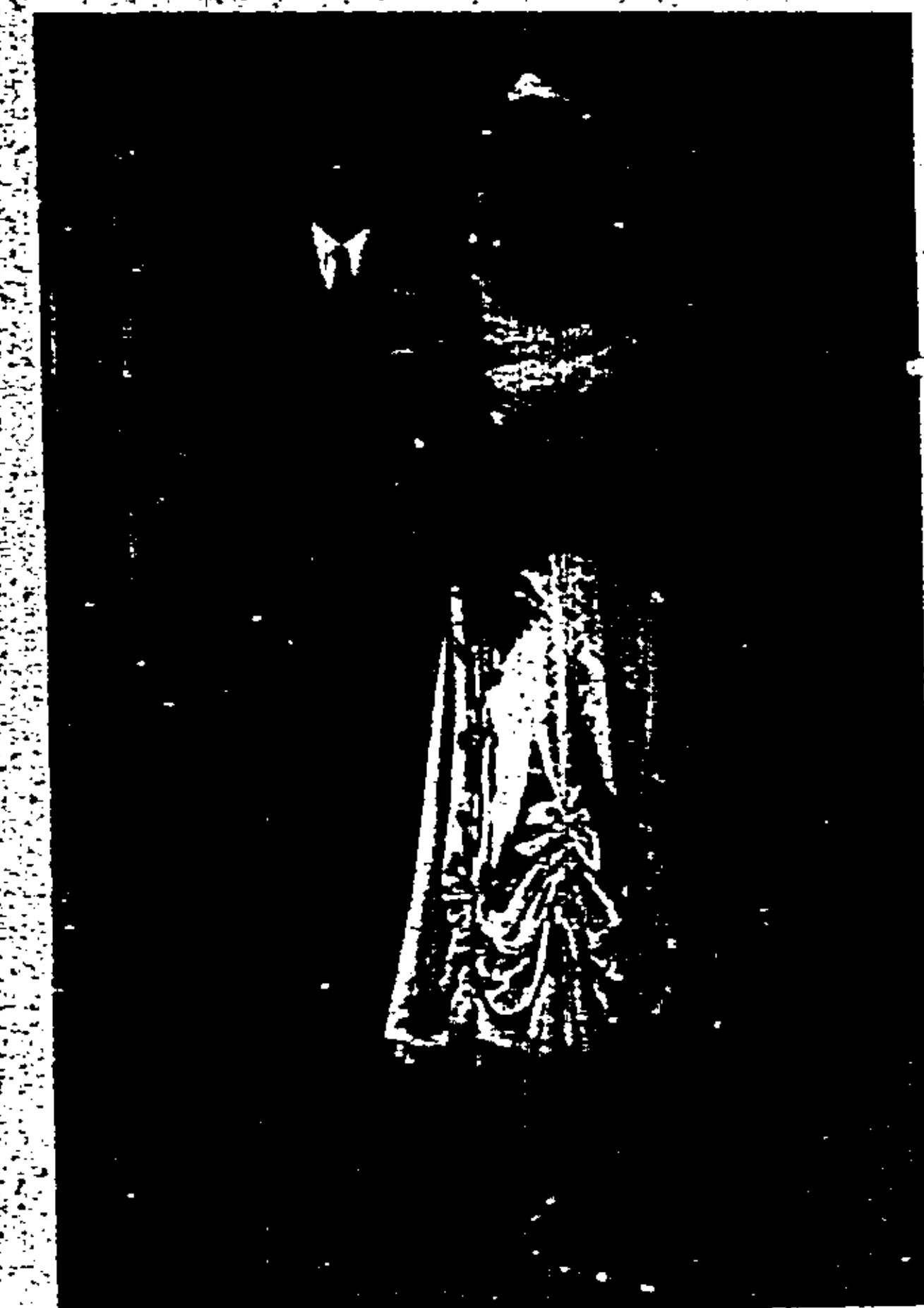


Having a happy time at a private party at the Hong Kong Hotel on December 15 was the family of Mr. G. E. Marden of Wheelock, Marden & Co.



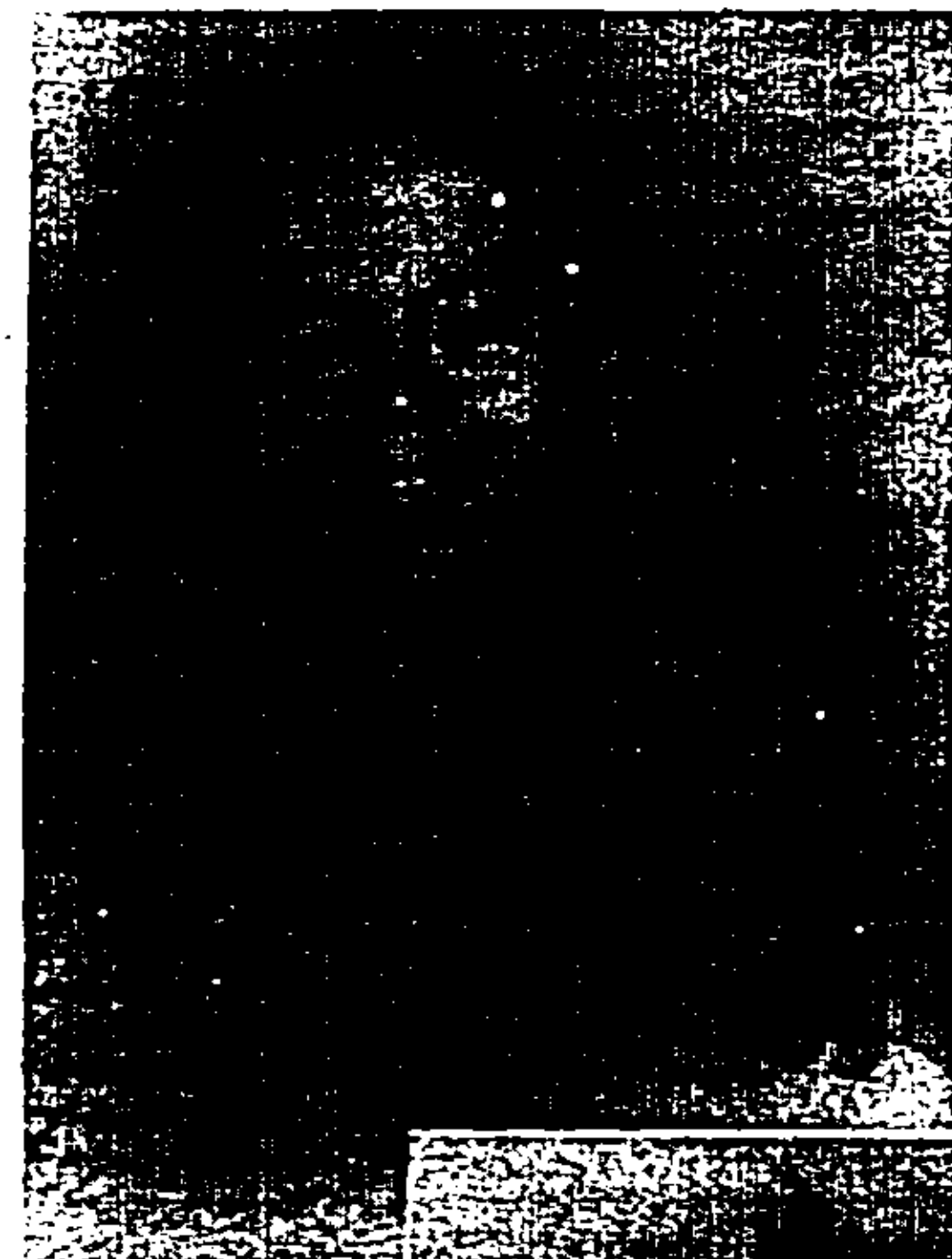
Mr. and Mrs. Hans Blocklin after their wedding at St. John's Cathedral on December 15.

At the wedding of Miss Wong Wing-kwan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wong Tse-shan, to Mr. Chan Pui-chun, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chan Yee-ting. The ceremony was conducted by Mr. T. W. Kwok, Commissioner for Chinese Affairs, at the Hong Kong Hotel. Bride and groom were educated at the Ling Nam University, Canton.

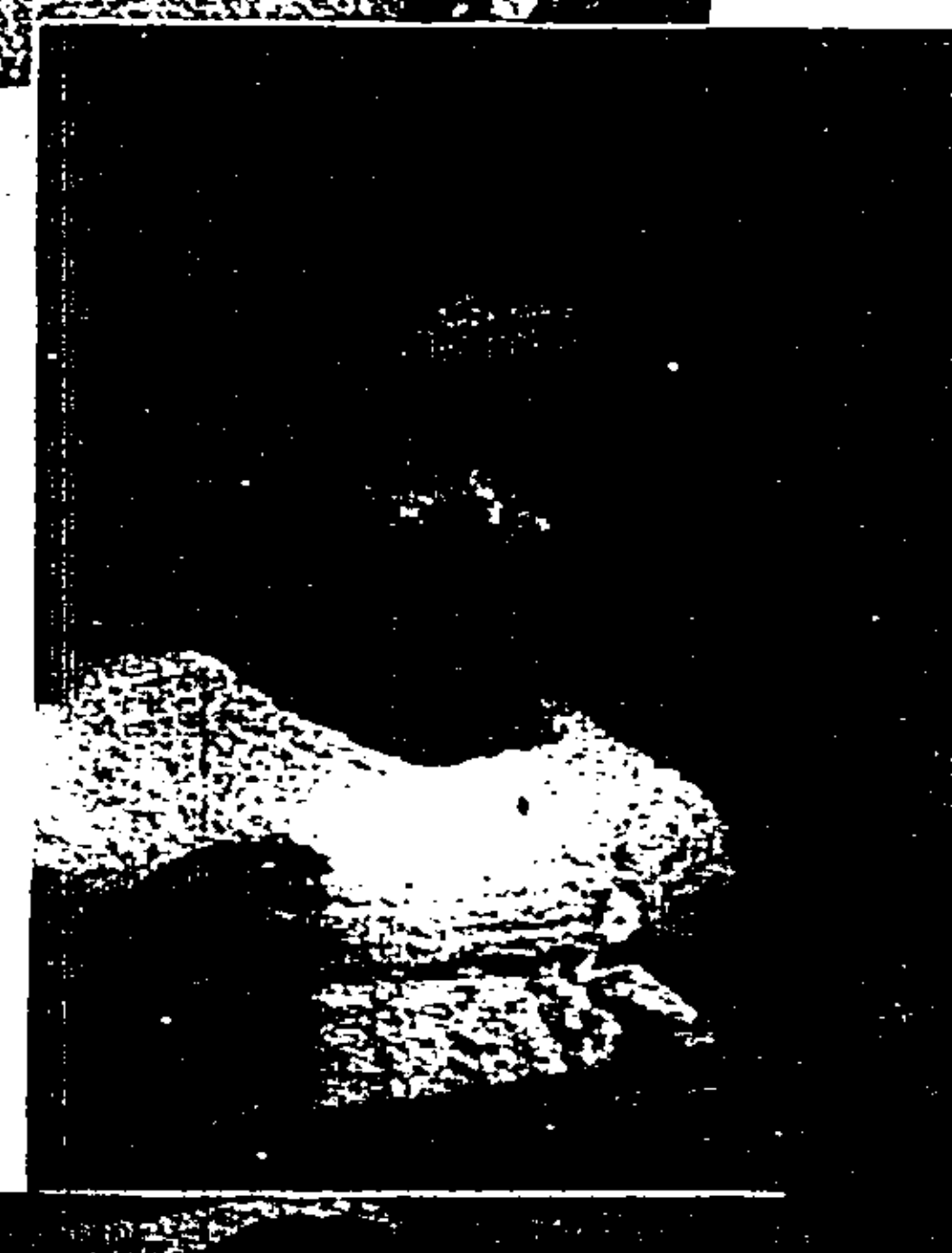
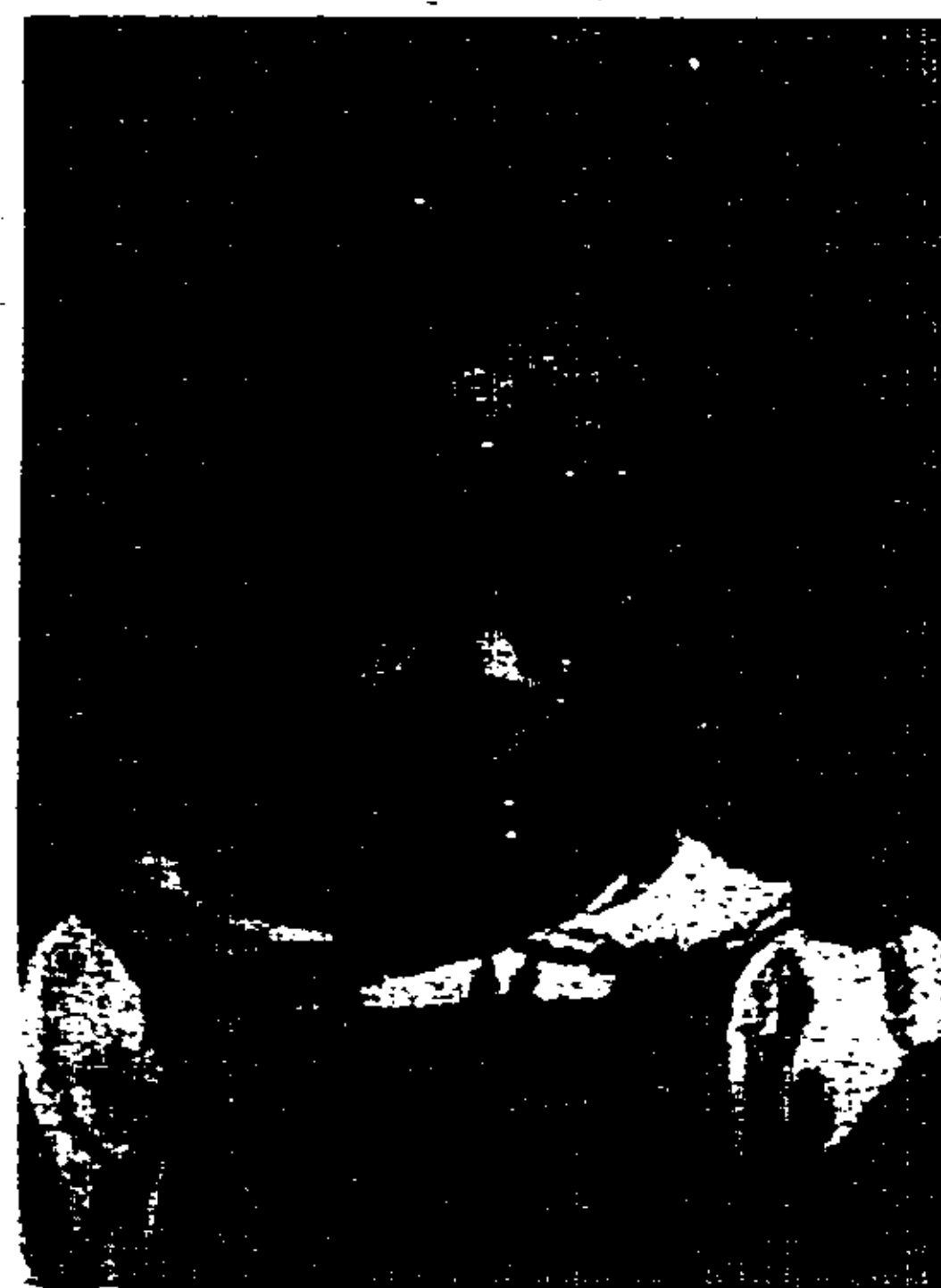


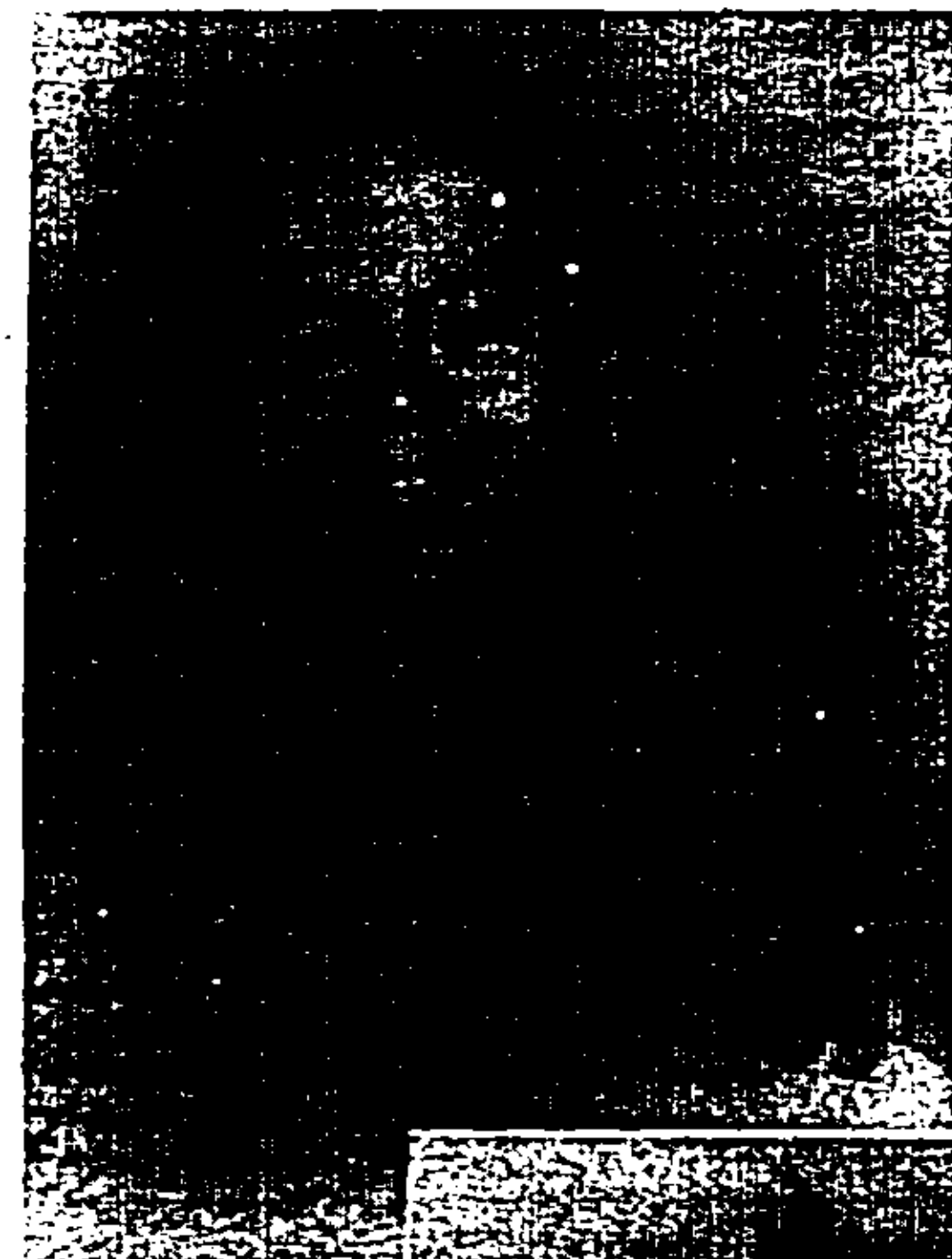
Flight Lieutenant J. Cant holds his son, Andrew Fraser, after his christening at St. Andrew's. Others are, left to right, Flight Lieutenant J. Fennel, Mrs. R. Lewis, Mrs. Cant, Squadron Leader R. Lewis, and Squadron Leader the Rev. R. C. H. Swain.

Bride and groom smile happily after the wedding of Miss Mabel Dorothy Howard and Mr. D. M. Xavier.

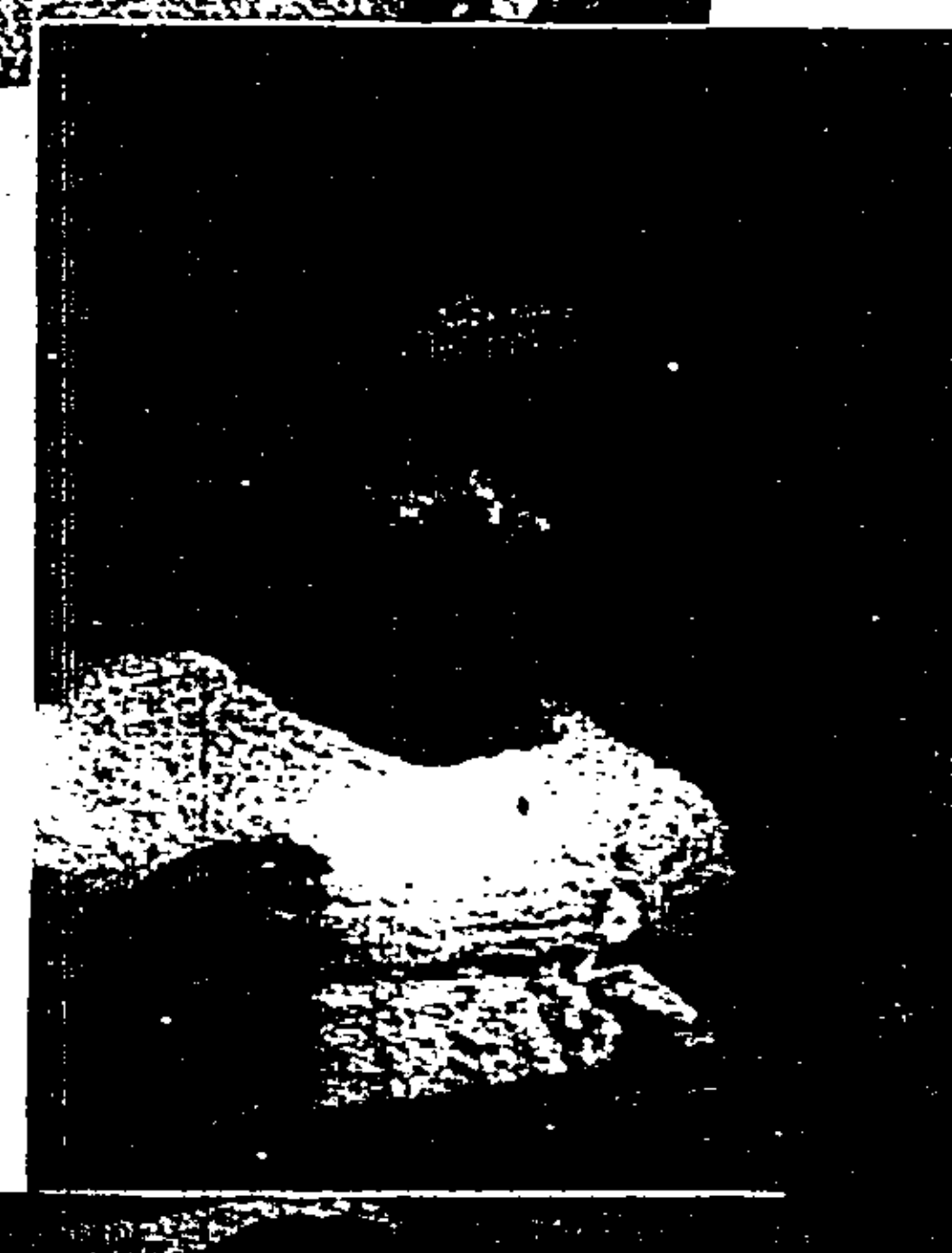
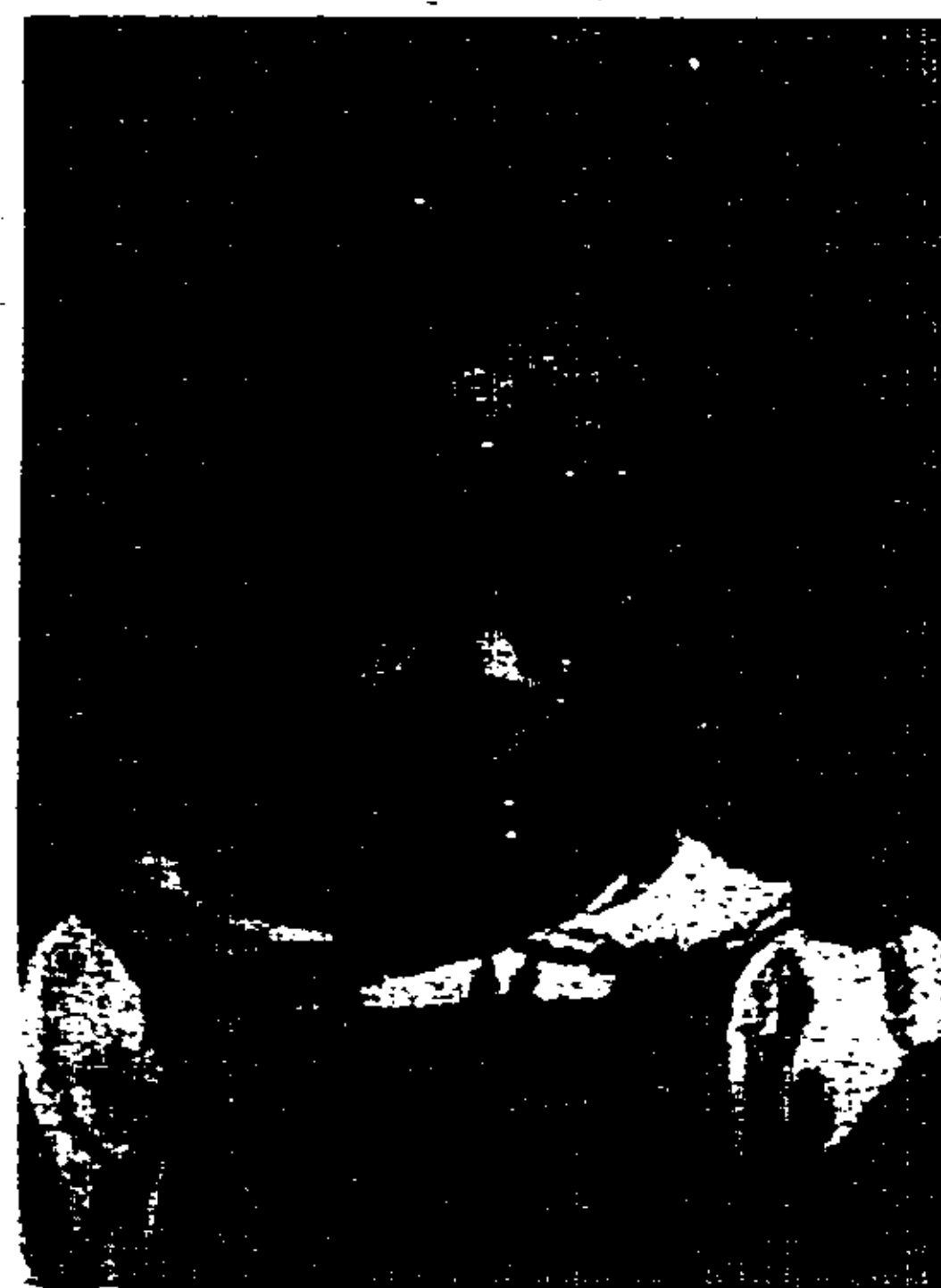


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Gigantic Surge In East Asia

New York, December 20. "Asia wants to rise out of its destitution, want and illiteracy," the Reverend Dr. Frank C. Lauback, missionary educator, said yesterday.

In a sermon at the St. Bartholomew's Protestant Episcopal Church, the Reverend Lauback said: "Her peoples want recognition as equals. If we do not help them up they will blow up. They hear one voice urging revolution and another speaking for Christ. Word has spread among these people that they do not need to remain ignorant and destitute. There is today a genuine surge toward education among them."

"The entire human race will be literate by the end of the century. We cannot allow three-fourths of the world to be uneducated and remain savages in their hearts. In 1949, I plan to visit next week to continue to work in Siam, India, New Guinea and Korea."

Corrupt Art In The West

Sofia, December 21. The Bulgarian Communists plan to ban "perverse and corrupt film products of decaying Western art."

They also aim at indoctrinating journalists by improving the Marxist and Leninist education of journalists in order finally to transform the press into a reliable daily source of general information and education in the spirit of the Communist party.

These proposals are contained in resolutions submitted to the Bulgarian Communist Party's fifth congress now meeting in Sofia. Representatives from 18 countries are attending the meeting.

The first resolution to be considered is one urging the building up of Socialism within the country by a series of five-year plans. This, the proposal acknowledges, will be a hard task.—Associated Press.

"FINE LESSON" OF BRITAIN

Paris, December 21. "France is in the full course of material and spiritual recovery," M. Robert Schuman, the Foreign Minister, declared today.

"Frenchmen should follow the example of the British, who give us a fine lesson of courage and civic virtue," M. Schuman told an audience at Sarbourg, Lorraine.

Germany, although defeated, was not attempting to renounce democratic freedom, he added. "Let us remember that an excess of criticism kills authority, and selfishness destroys the State."

U.S. GENERAL IN TURKEY

London, December 21. Radio Ankara reports that the head of the American military mission to Greece, Major General James Van Fleet, has arrived in Istanbul accompanied by five officers of his staff.

He is to meet there the American Secretary of Defense, Mr. Kenneth Royall, who is touring Europe to get first hand knowledge of American occupation activities.—Reuter.

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Four More Years Of Austerity

London, December 20.

Britain will probably do without 25 per cent of her Marshall aid next year, but will still face the world with a £100 million credit balance in 1952-53.

This is the overall meaning of the Government's four-year recovery plan under Marshall Aid published today.

The three main points of the plan are:

1.—An increase in exports of at least 50 per cent above 1938 and 10 per cent above 1948.

2.—Capital investment, for industrial and agricultural development, at the rate of £2,000 million a year.

3.—A 15 to 20 per cent increase in the supply of manufactured goods to the home consumer, with a speed-up of home food production to replace imports.

The only definite forecast in the 65-page programme is that in the 12 months starting next July, Britain reckons to manage with \$940 million of Marshall aid compared with \$1,203 million this year.

The plan assumes that Britain, working under conditions of rigorous austerity, will close her menacing imports-exports gap, now running at the yearly rate of \$1,228 million, by the end of Marshall aid in 1952.

Must Be Done

Details have already leaked from Paris and the only unclouded feature is that the programme is not a hard forecast on what Britain intends to do.

It is a recital of what she must do and the means of doing it. A vast industrial programme at home will speed the export drive. It is planned to raise the coal output by nearly a quarter, electricity generating capacity by nearly a half, the output of steel by nearly 40 per cent.

Still further expansion is also planned for the engineering industries, whose output is already nearly 50 per cent over pre-war figures.

Agricultural production will be pushed up to an all-time record of 50 per cent above pre-war and Britain in 1952-53 will be importing even less food than now.

Britain's balance of payments in 1952-53 should show a surplus of \$691 million with the Western Hemisphere—an overall surplus of \$400 million with the world as a whole.

Decisive Year

Next year is named as the decisive year of the whole programme for 1949-53, which companies are to gear up for.

The report states: "By the end of that year, if all goes well, it will be possible to see clearly the way ahead."

The British Government will finance various colonial development projects. These will be reflected in increased exports of food and raw materials vital to European recovery.

Increases are projected to the production of groundnuts, sugar, rubber, tin, copper, cobalt, bauxite and lead. Rubber and copper production will be doubled, and the output of bauxite, for aluminium, will be 12 times greater than in 1938.

The production of sugar will be increased by two-fifths. The crude oil production of British companies should be double the 1947 figure by the end of Marshall aid.

Essential Factor

The success of the programme will depend upon full co-operation with the other countries in Western Europe and the Commonwealth. It is emphasised.

"An increase in the exchange of goods between these countries is essential to their joint recovery," the report adds. "It is only through careful co-ordination of their individual programmes that they can make the most economical use of their resources."

Success will also depend upon financial stability at home. "It is the object of the Government's budget policy to maintain full employment, while ensuring that sufficient purchasing power is withheld to finance the large investment programme without inflation."

The four-year economic programme discusses in the following terms the prospects of the balance of payments between Great Britain and the continental countries participating in the Marshall Plan:

"It appears that the tendency now developing for the United Kingdom to be in surplus with the other participating countries will persist into 1952-53."

"If the rest of the sterling area likewise tends to be in surplus with the other participating countries (as it is now), the latter, taken as a whole, will be confronted with a difficult sterling problem."

Mystery Man Was Not A Millionaire

London, December 20.

F. A. Szarwast, financier and banker who was generally reputed to be worth millions, left £71,400. Mr. Szarwast who was known as one of the mystery men of finance, was chairman of the Amalgamated Anthracite Collieries, Limited, before its nationalisation.

He was also chairman of the Covent Garden Opera syndicate from 1930 to 1933 and established the former General Theatres Corporation.—Reuter.

Kingdom dollar deficit to manageable dimensions. But Britain's surplus with the continental countries, though small, will be enlarged by the additional surplus of the rest of the sterling area with them.

A Deficit

This is described by the programme as one of the difficult problems which may call for mutual adjustments in the economies of the United Kingdom and the other participating countries.

Although imports from the Western Hemisphere are assumed to be cut by about 20 per cent and exports there increased by 55 per cent, Britain will still have a deficit of \$201 million with the Hemisphere in the year starting July, 1952.

She also expects a deficit equal to \$174 million with Russia, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and certain other countries.

Britain reckons to outweigh these and earn a world surplus equal to \$400 million from the following sources: a surplus equal to \$816 million with the sterling area and a surplus equal to \$40 million with the continental ERP countries.

Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is also overall controller of British economy, declared at a press conference that Britain's four-year recovery programme under Marshall aid is based on the following assumptions:

East-West Trade

1.—A continued high level of activity throughout the world, especially in the Western Hemisphere.

2.—A reasonable flow of East-West trade within Europe.

3.—Substantial progress in European co-operation based on stable monetary conditions in Europe.

4.—Reasonable freedom of movement among themselves of Western European currencies.

5.—Political conditions in Western Europe requiring no substantial increase in armaments above present levels.—Reuter.

CHINA CRISIS

THE BIG QUESTION IS STILL UNANSWERED

Nanking, December 20.

Dr. Sun Fo's surprise announcement tonight of the formation of his Cabinet came 36 hours after he had informed Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek that he was unable to accept nomination as Premier because he had failed in the task of choosing a Ministry.

The overnight change in the situation was believed to have followed pressure by the Generalissimo on Dr. Sun Fo again to attempt the task.

It was understood that the Generalissimo also used his influence to persuade prominent members of the Kuomintang to participate in Dr. Sun Fo's new Cabinet.

In all events, tonight's announcement followed a day of numerous conferences and discussions. The significant phrases used by Dr. Sun Fo tonight, rather than past policies, some of his Ministers believed, indicate the course which the new Cabinet may pursue.

Dr. Sun Fo has announced a restricted list drawn from both the conservative and liberal groups within the Kuomintang and representative of those who in the past have been opposed to or prepared to accept some form of a Coalition.

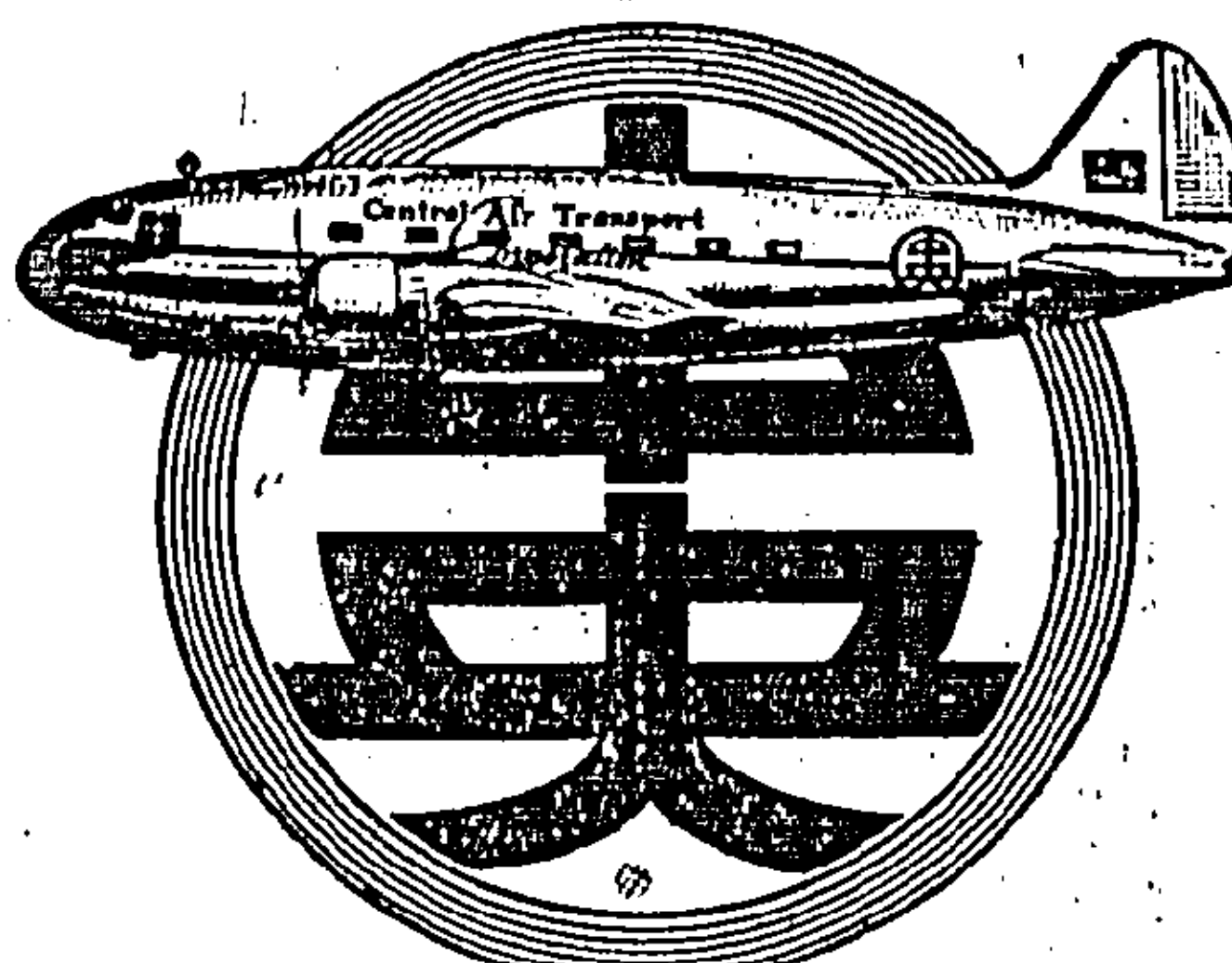
Question Mark

But the language of the statement given the press at his home tonight suggested that the Premier was already prepared to consider some form of compromise.

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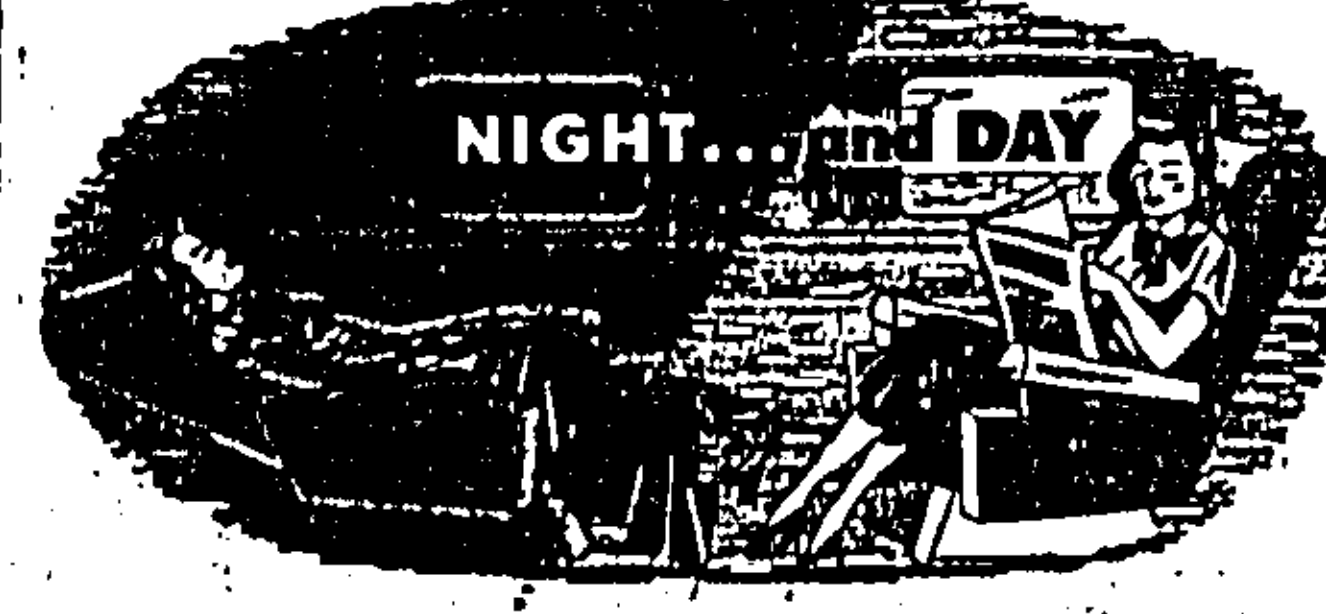
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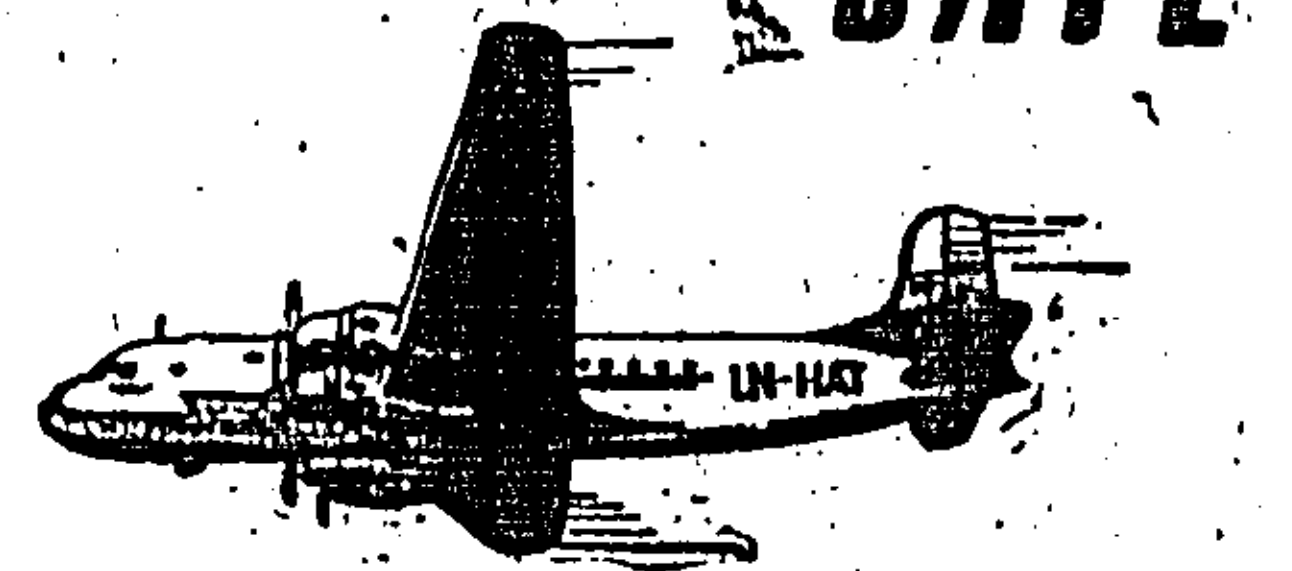
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Woman Today

UTILITY COSTUMES ARE SMART



This Rensor utility wool suit combines a straight brown skirt with fly-away jacket in brown and white check.

Another utility model is this attractive two-piece, a Saldor dress with matching jacket, in royal blue. Snug jacket has buttons down front, pinched-in waist, long sleeves and scalloped pelum.

A Windmoor utility teal-green coat with reefer lines and smart high collar of brown velvet.

Reports that midwintertees, those stylish needwomans of Paris, consider British "utility" suits among the season's best buys, suggest how these up-to-the-minute clothes have developed in style and quality since the first wartime austerity models were introduced in 1941.

"CC41"—the utility mark on British clothes—is the widest known official trade-mark ever introduced into British fashion stores. It has become also a mark of quality in so far as it is a Board of Trade guarantee that the garment reaches standards laid down by them as fair value for money paid.

Wanted For Export, Too
Permission was given for export of this clothing in May, 1948, in response to requests from overseas buyers.

During the war "utility" tended to be for the civilian what "uniform" was for the servicewoman. Shortage of materials and rigid control of the amount used in each garment made variety in design impossible. The number of buttons and pockets, trimmings, even turn-ups on trousers, was regulated.

With raising of the ceiling price for utility clothes, and relaxation of the style regulations, makers up now have latitude to follow current trends.

When "CC41" garments bear the name of a reputable firm, one can be fairly certain their quality will be in accordance with the firm's general standard. Moreover, the customer pays no purchase tax when buying "utility." The tax on most other clothing is 33 1/3 per cent on the wholesale price. With the general exclusion of hats, and a few items like dress gowns and ties, practically every article of men's, women's, and children's clothing comes within the utility range of production and price control. Schedules, drawn up after consultation with

the trading interests concerned, cover a range of prices, according to the clothes used, from a baby's bib and tucker to a man's suit.

It is generally agreed the overall standard of British clothing has been raised through this scheme, though a few items like coats and men's suspenders, for instance, have not yet reached their pre-war standard. This is attributed to shortage of rubber and elastic.

In women's clothing, the discriminating shopper may find a suit or coat in the utility range almost indistinguishable from that which would cost nearly three times as much on non-utility stands.

Utility Prestige Gains

Two reasons why women pay the higher prices are because they feel they are not likely to meet so many others wearing identical models, or they haven't time to search the department

stores to find what they need at the lower cost.

Selfridge's Oxford Street store, since the utility scheme was introduced, has given parades each year of "sponsored" utility fashions, exclusive to that store. These parades are open to the general public for a week each spring and autumn, and the garments shown are prototypes of those sold in the store during the season.

Wardrobe Helps

With the ceiling price of utility suits round about £6 women were often faced with having to pay almost as much for a hat, since these were not rationed, as they paid for a suit. To meet this situation, Selfridge's has opened what they call their medium-priced hat salon where one may snatch up a utility suit with a new season's beret or cloche for sums between one and two pounds.

Ann Temple

SELFISH DAUGHTERS

I have two daughters, one 19 and the other 17, both very nice girls. They earn good money, but contribute nothing towards their keep. My wife sees nothing wrong with this and encourages their selfishness by further spoiling.

I have long given up protesting against my friends' continually entertained in the house and staying often after midnight. But I am thinking of saying I will pay the rent and the utilities and a "problem" but what can you expect if the girls have been brought up to think of Dad as the "universal provider"?

And they been trained in the idea of family responsibility, family sharing, family contributing, you would have something to appeal to in them. They would take it in their stride that as earners they became responsible members of the family group and as contributors have a say in the family budget.

An old rancher once told me, beaming with pride in his sons and daughters, that he and his wife had brought them up on the principle "No work—no eat." It may not be too late for you to try "No pay—no eat" with your little bunch. Good luck to you!

In my efforts to improve myself as a conversationalist I have become a worse one. Searching for topics, I have read books, listened to all manner of talks, lectures, sought everywhere for new ideas, only to become so conscious of what I am saying that I stick and dry up.

Can you suggest the best way to make one's conversation interesting whatever the subject?—A.W.B.

Better forget about being a good talker yourself and concentrate on making yourself an interesting person to be talked to. Rules of conversation are dangerous.

Renommée

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LONDON FASHION HINT

By Joan White

It was kind of London's leading coutouriers to include in their recent collections some ideas which can be used by a keen needwomans to bring last season's clothes right up to this minute. If you take their hint and use contrasting materials as they do on your ageing but favourite dress, you'll be right up to date.

The corset waist, as shown by Norman Hartnell, Matelli, Worth and Rahvis, is a godsend if you want to give your dress a fresh start in life. Imagine your black crepe with a wide band of velvet inset from the ribs to about three inches below the waist, clipped in tightly at your natural waist line with a narrow gold kid belt, and if you like, bands of the velvet let into the skirt as well.

Michael Sherard, one of London's younger designers who keeps his "hint" for drama and colour firmly leashed in by the demands of practicality, showed a day dress which I fell in love with at sight. It was in very fine dark green wool, the skirt straight and slim, the bodice in tartan silk. Over this was a short bolero jacket in the green wool. And as I watched it walking up and down his salon I realised that here was a dress with all the virtues and, moreover, that one could easily adapt an established favourite on these lines.

Popular Boleros

Boleros of all kinds are popular this autumn, perhaps because they help to emphasise our new small waists. So if your dress is too tight, or worn, you could hardly find a better way of freshening it up than this. Decide first whether you are going to produce a bolero effect in the front only, or whether your silk top is going to be a complete bodice, with a separate bolero over it.

If the former, unpick the stitching joining bodice to skirt. Slit the bodice up the centre front and take off any collar or neck trimming because you will want a narrow upstanding military collar of the tartan to show above the wool. Cut a slice off the bottom of the bodice, turn back the raw edges and face with bias binding.

Now for the new tartan blouse. Cut out the front from a well-tested and perfectly plain blouse pattern, seam it in to the shoulders, armhole, sides and waist. Finish the neck with the narrow band of tartan and a small bow, or the bow would look well in narrow black velvet ribbon. One obvious advantage of this method is that you need not disturb the set of the sleeves.

However, if your dress is tight across the back as well as the front there is nothing for it but to take off the whole top and replace it with the tartan. Now cut a band, say four inches deep, from the bottom of the discarded bodice. With this you can make an inverted pleat down the middle of the back. Finish off the edges with bias binding, press well and wear your new London model right through the day with confidence.

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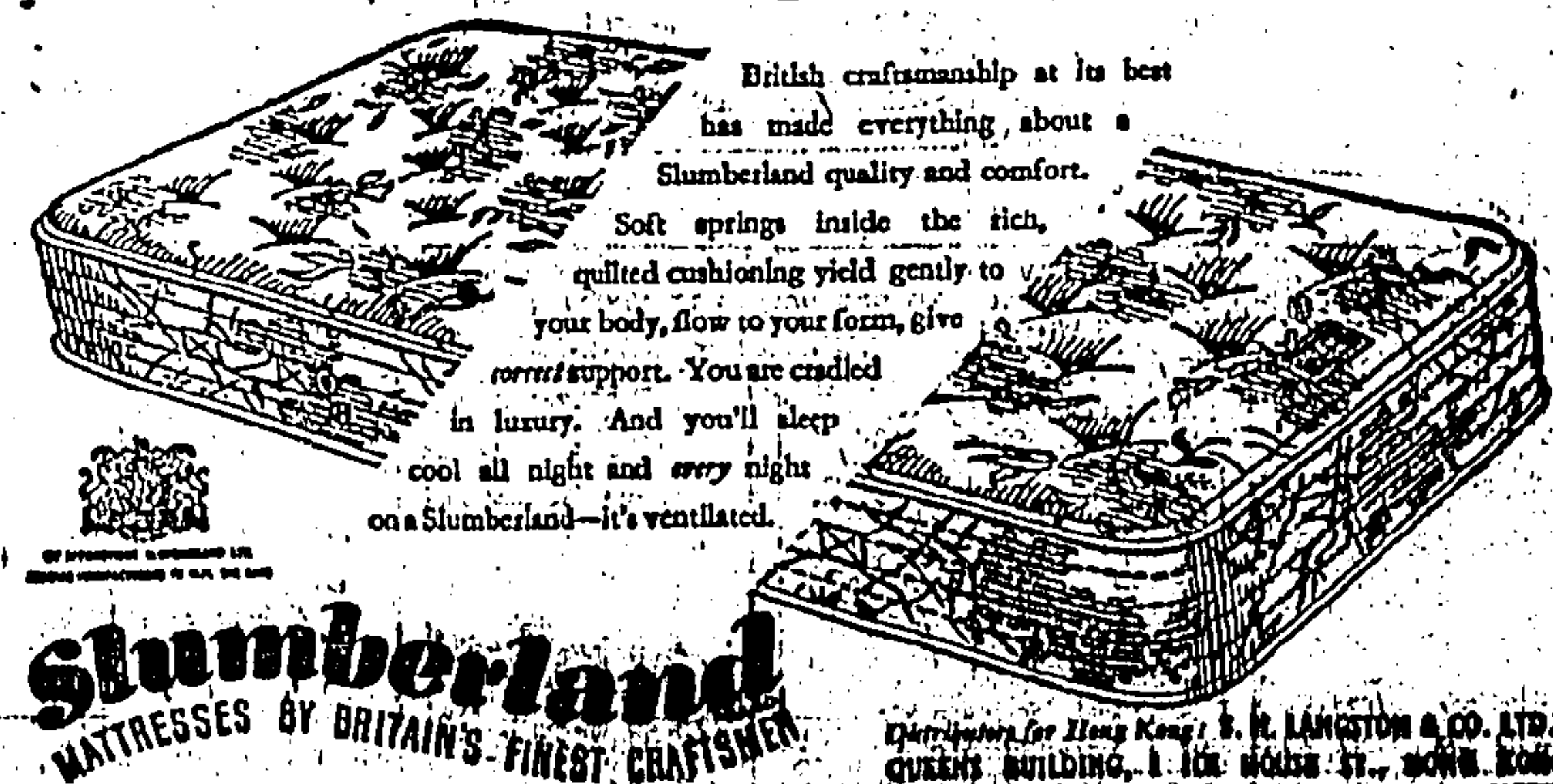
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DON IDDON'S DIARY

No Shake-Ups And No Purges In Washington

The first Socialist attempt to paint the White House red has failed.

President Truman, informed by Left-Wingers that his election victory was a triumph for Labour and a mandate for Government controls, has shown the radicals the door.

He has assured business that it has nothing to fear from him, put private enterprise on the back, and come out plainly for the American (capitalist) Way of Life.

Pennsylvania-avenue today is littered with broken hopes of American Attlees and home-crooked Cripples.

Plans Upset

They planned to move in at four-year guests at the White House, but Mr. Truman, with as many representatives of Wall Street in his Cabinet as Herbert Hoover had, announces no shake-ups, no purges.

Perhaps now the Socialists in Britain will take the hint. Every time they had Harry Truman's election as a Socialist success, they appear as political clowns and clingers.

When Americans went shopping at the polls they didn't buy a Labour Government. The present U.S. Administration is no more radical than Britain's Conservative Party, and in many ways not so liberal.

Altogether it has been a disillusioning week for all those trying to climb on to the Truman bandwagon. Moderate Ching Kai-shek has had a deep-freeze reception and a hostile Press. Local comment is that the influence of "she-power" in history is waning.

I wonder how many more wives of world leaders plan trips? Is Mrs. Attlee coming here on State business? Do French, Italian, Greek, Turkish intend to send their charming and gifted wives to the States?

I do not know. I am, however, but suggest that perhaps a woman's place is at home—not the U.S. Treasury.

There is certainly no scheme afoot to dispatch Mrs. Truman or Margaret to London, Paris or Nanking.

No, this time the old Chinese magic is not working. And anyway, at three billion dollars a performance it's too expensive.

Taxpayers would like to spend some of it on getting to the bottom of the Russian spy scare. For once again the Red agents are with us and up to even more blood-chilling tricks than usual, according to the Un-American Activities Committee.

Now, says the Committee, 800 Moscow-trained American Communists are "high officers of a secret army now being drilled to overthrow our Government."

Micro-filmed plots and plans, confidential American military and State Department papers are being uncovered in pumpkins on remote farms. Reds roam the corridors of the Capitol.

'Red Herring'

Today the great inquiry which was called a red herring by President Truman and got a horse-laugh from the public is resumed. Sensations, thrills, suspense, action—all are promised and at no admission fee. It should be a diverting Christmas circus.

New York is also putting on a show, not quite as terrifying as Washington, but excellent entertainment. Within a few days we have been given the full stock treatment—sex, crime and money.

The entire divorce system of New York State has been declared a racket, a flit business and put-up job contrived by crooked lawyers, desperate clients and stage correspondents needing dollars.

Under the law of this State adultery is the only grounds for divorce, and faced by this holy deadlock people have obtained their freedom by fraud, perjury and collusion.

There is nothing very new about this, of course—it has gone on for years in Britain—but District Attorney Frank Hogan professes astonishment and indignation, and 22,500 divorces granted in Manhattan during the past five years are being raked over and dug into.

'Rich To Reno'

The old comment has been revived: "The rich go to Reno. The poor are forced to commit perjury."

There is also a sweeping investigation of waterfront racketeering ordered by Mayor O'Dwyer, who says so many thugs and crooks are operating on the waterfront that some ship-owners are refusing to lease city-owned piers.

The third sensation provided for New Yorkers was an announcement that the city is being flooded with the greatest amount of counterfeit money in history.

Now almost every time you change a note the shopkeeper holds it against the light and fixes you with a suspicious eye.

Despite these lapses of human behaviour, however, preparations for Christmas are well advanced. Enormous trees rigged with

coloured lights and tinsel have been erected along Park Avenue. There is a giant tree 100 ft. tall facing the skating rink in Rockefeller Centre.

In the stores front windows are studded with red, blue, green and yellow bulbs decorate the walls, and most shops have broken out with holly and mistletoe.

Battalions of frayed Santas, rigged up in scarlet gowns, bearded and hooded, have been lured from streets and doss-houses at 10 dollars a day by floor managers.

But it's not going to be a boom Christmas, according to the experts. Sales so far are 10 per cent below last year's.

NEWS HAS ALSO BEEN MADE HERE BY: The Stewarts, Sir Robert and Edith are the two most-sought-after British people in town; public indignation at the fuss and feeling of former Iraqi chief, Menuchem Beighin butcher of many British boys in Palestine; Lord Vansittart's statement: "I would like to see us tell Stalin to call his jackals to order."

Harsh Word

Max Harrison has infuriated the Hollywood Press by saying that he considers the columnists out there "moronic." This is a harsh word.

But the truth is that the standard of journalism in the film city is appallingly low. Harrison also says: "Hollywood is done for, Hollywood and I have no future in common, and I doubt if Hollywood has any future at all."

This statement has made everyone connected with American film-making jump on Harrison with both feet. It will harm the British actor's Broadway opening in "Anne of the Thousand Days."

Harrison's wife, Lilli Palmer, has also been speaking up: "Hollywood journalism is such that even actors do some little human thing that could happen to anyone they are not only torn down, they are torn to shreds."

Footnote: The Congressional Investigating Committee calls itself un-American. It is.

FRANCO-ITALIAN TALKS OPEN

Cannes, December 20. The French Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman, met the Italian Foreign Minister, Count Carlo Sforza, in Cannes today.

In a talk lasting two and a half hours, the two Ministers agreed that everything possible should be done to increase commercial exchanges between France and Italy and achieve a better balance of trade between the two countries.

The Ministers will meet again tomorrow.—Reuter.

FIRE IN PALACE

Copenhagen, December 21. A fire broke out in the Danish Royal Palace yesterday. Firemen from 20 engines put out the blaze in a few minutes as King Frederik watched.—Associated Press.

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Italian Strike's Varying Success

Rome, December 20.

Official circles estimated late tonight that the strike of Italian public employees was about 40 per cent effective in the North. It varied from five per cent in Rome to 20 or 25 per cent in the centre and the South.

Most railway traffic was brought to a standstill in Central and Northern Italy.

The Secretary-General of the Communist-controlled Italian General Confederation of Labour, Signor Giuseppe di Vittorio, claimed tonight that the strike is more successful than had been expected.

Five thousand strikers, meeting at the historic Coliseum today, heard the Secretary of the Railwaymen's Union describe the day's increases offered them as so small as to constitute an offence. Police manned all railway stations and accompanied all trains which left Rome. Reinforced guards protected the Ministries.

Train services were frequent in Southern Italy and Sicily but the North, where Communist influence is much stronger, had little rail traffic. In Bologna, in the heart of the Communist stronghold of Emilia, the strike was complete.

Milan Too

Reports from Milan said the Independent Railway Union has joined the strike there.

The Independent Rome newspaper, Memento Sera, blaming the Government for the strike, said tonight: "It should have either fully refused all salary increases to civil servants if the budget really will not stand it, or conceded a satisfactory increase."

Official sources said 85 to 90 per cent of civil servants were at work at midday today. Rome's main post office in the Piazza San Silvestro was open, but trunk line calls and telegraph services to the provinces were functioning at 10 a.m.

No trains from Italy reached Chiasso and Somoledola on the Italian-Swiss frontier, but services in Southern Italy and Sicily were running. Ten trains, including express from Milan, Turin and Naples, left Rome.—Reuter.

Gaulle Plan For Defence

Paris, December 21.

General Charles de Gaulle, leader of the French People's Rally, in a speech to the National Council of his Rally tonight, supported a defence system common to all the States which defend European civilisation.

General de Gaulle added: "Let us also establish the main lines of an economic union of the free States of Europe in agreement with the glorious and practical steps taken by the United States."

He reaffirmed his opposition to rebuilding Germany on the old lines. He said Germany must be considered a federative entity which could be integrated in a European union.

The Ruhr could take part in a European union with an international status but without losing its German character.—Reuter.

JEWISH REFUGEES TO BE AIRLIFTED

Stockholm, December 21.

A new airlift for Jewish refugees was inaugurated here today.

Thirty-eight young Jewish women left Stockholm for Israel by way of Marseilles in a chartered Scandinavian Douglas airliner.

The flight was arranged by the American Urgent Distribution Committee, an agency assisting overseas Jewry, which announced that five other flights are due from Sweden this month.

The six flights will take a total of 195 emigrants from Sweden to Israel.

The joint distribution Committee also hope to assist a further 1,000 Jewish refugees from Sweden to reach Palestine in 1949.

Visas in Sweden were arranged through the Swedish office of the Jewish Agency.

Most of the emigrants are young women who were rescued from Nazi concentration camps in 1945 by the late Count Folke Bernadotte and the Swedish Red Cross.

They are now being employed in Swedish industries.

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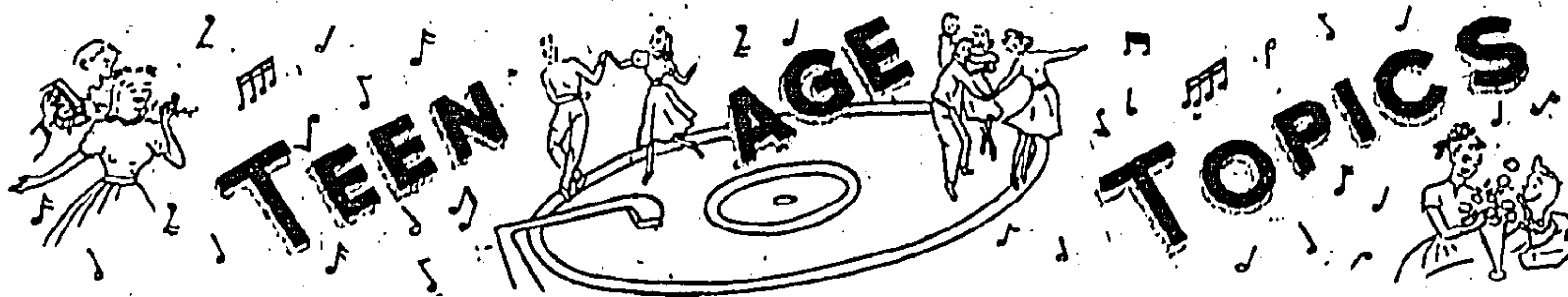
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Editorial

Christmas

The 25th day of December has a different meaning to people in various stages of life. To the child, it is a day of innumerable gifts, candy and Santa Claus.

To young people, it is a grand holiday of festivities which only young and unburdened hearts can fully enjoy. And to parents, it is a day of pride and thanksgiving to God, manifested through the loving atmosphere of their homes.

But to all without exception, it is a day of supreme joy. It is Christmas!

The feeling of love and goodwill toward all cannot be more effectively inspired by any occasion than the anniversary of the holy nativity—a majestic date in our calendar, indeed, a chance to join hands with our neighbours over the differences which the days in the year have brought about.

This is the first opportunity that the Topics has had to celebrate with you, to join hands with you all in cherishing the old wish that is forever new: Love and goodwill towards all and a Very Merry Christmas.

Competition

A number of good stories were received for the last competition and the winning entries are published in this issue.

Prize winners are Joyce Pomeroy, Prince Edward Road, Kowloon (\$6), and Denis Ablong (\$4).

The prizes will be in the mail today.

Back again we go to the news personalities contest. Below are five names jumbled up. They were in our news columns and pictorial supplements during the past week. Prizes are \$8 and \$4 for the two first entries opened.

1. ASLRATVI—Virgin Mary in Wonder Night.

2. DIBKAAATHLR—H. K. girl married in Shanghai.

3. GGGRRMEALLHSA—Nine years old.

4. LAERVE—Red Riding Hood.

5. DGNONIQAUTSA—soloist in concert.

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Charity At Christmas

Christmas

Jeanne sat quietly at the breakfast table with her hands folded before her, breakfast untouched.

Her eyes stared fixedly at a picture of her parents on the mantelpiece, while two large tear drops ran down her shining cheeks.

In this mood, the orphan's thoughts wandered off into the past where Christmas had seemed like a nightmare. This time of fun and happiness could only be enjoyed in the presence of cheerful parents.

Jeanne was awakened to the present by the cheerful shouts and gay laughter of the younger generation. Hurriedly she rose from the table and walked to the window. The scene outside was a definite consolation to her red moist eyes.

The children in their bright coloured suits and with rosy puffy faces, were displaying their great collection of Christmas gifts. Drums, trumpets, sledges, dolls, bikes, trains and toys of every colour and kind, were strewn on the floor. The children, on this day, were livelier than ever.

But attention was soon drawn to a crippled boy sitting quietly reading a book on his front porch. While her gaze rested upon the child, an idea entered her head. Her Christmas could be spent in bringing joy to others even if she herself could not find any.

An hour later, a breathless red faced Jeanne stood before the matron of St. Mary's Hospital, asking permission to entertain the sick.

When permission was given she began immediately on her good intention. With forced enthusiasm, and concern she remained in the hospital all day bringing laughter and fun to the bed ridden with her songs and stories.

Her unselfish and noble work brought life to those who otherwise would have spent their Christmas in a hum-drum monotony of hospital routine.

JOYCE POMEROY

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Personality

Christmas

Laureen Clemo is 16 years of age. She was born in Hong Kong on January 13, 1932, and travelled to Australia when she was eight, returning to the Colony two years ago.

Laureen learned ballet dancing when she was five, and for the next three years took part in many of the ballet shows in Hong Kong staged by her teacher, George Goncharoff.

When Laureen arrived in Australia, she added the study of music to her cultural interests, doing the course in the Sydney Conservatorium, meanwhile attending—Wenona High School.

She is now in King George V School, but is leaving Hong Kong in February next year for finishing school in Switzerland. Laureen hopes to come to the Colony after two or three years abroad.

Her reading is chiefly mystery stories and romances. She finds fascination in stage work and has appeared in many local productions, the latest of which is the YMCA pantomime, "Red Riding Hood" in which she plays the prince.

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LAUREEN CLEMO

Thanks, Mistletoe!

Christmas

It was the most magnificent night of the year, Christmas Eve, and the teen agers of Kowloon were going to celebrate that momentous event with a midnight stag session at their club, "Sweet Sixteen."

The lads had contracted to spring a big surprise on the unsuspecting lasses before the dance, and they met at the club hours earlier, and started on a huge Christmas wreath of mistletoe.

"The chicks would probably murder us for this idea," declared Burt, brushing the dirt off his tuxedo. "A mistletoe can work such wonders," he proudly stated, nothing with a laugh, "this is one wreath that will bring happiness."

When pretty Marion, dressed in a pink pastel frock, arrived at the club she was exceedingly astonished to find a flock of mumbling girls standing outside the club in the cold night. She inquired loudly, "What's eating you girls?" A few of the shivering lasses complained together, "Those boys have us usual, cooked up some ingenious idea," pointing to the entrance, covered with a huge branch of mistletoe.

Marion pondered. Burt must be responsible again. That punk who was her closest rival in everything, but secretly her dream boy. Marion was dynamic when she was angry and she courageously led the pack of girls through the giant wreath, shouting encouragingly, "No one is going to stop me from getting an earful of that rocking rhythm of Duke."

She walked through the wreath right into the arms of handsome Burt who kissed her and whispered, "Merry Christmas, sugar." He then led her, hands entwined, to the dance floor and spoke out earnestly and with confidence, "I have been waiting the whole evening for this."

DENIS ABLONG

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LAUREEN CLEMO

Platter Chatter

Correcting the typographical error in last week's article, the sentence should read: A few days later the U. S. Army declared Major Glenn Miller "officially dead."

Correspondence.

Thank you



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"HANYANG"	Shanghai, Pusan & Fusan	4 p.m. 22nd Dec.
"HUNAN"	Amoy, Swatow, Hainan	5 p.m. 22nd Dec.
"ANHUI"	Amoy, Swatow, Hainan	5 p.m. 22nd Dec.
"FOYANG"	Batavia & Belawan	5 p.m. 23rd Dec.
"HANYANG"	Swatow	5 p.m. 26th Dec.
"FENGTIEN"	Singapore, Macassar	3 p.m. 27th Dec.
"FENGTIEN"	Sourabaya & Batavia	4 p.m. 28th Dec.
"SIENGKING"	Shanghai	4 p.m. 31st Dec.
"FUKIEN"	Yokohama & Kobe	5th Jan.

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"HANYANG"	Swatow	8 a.m. 25th Dec.
"SIENGKING"	Shanghai & Keelung	7 a.m. 25th Dec.
"HUPH"	Tientsin, Pusan, Fusan	30th Dec.
"FUKIEN"	Java, Singapore & Bangkok	2nd Jan.

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"AGAPOR"	U.K. via Straits	26th Dec.
"AGAPOR"	U.K. via Straits	30th Dec.
"AGAPOR"	U.K. via Straits	Mid. Jan.

Sailings to

"GLENROY"	Liverpool via Port Said	29th Dec.
"AGAPOR"	Liverpool & Glasgow via Port Said	7th Jan.

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"RIEXENOR"	U.S.A. via Manila & Shanghai	2nd Jan.
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Sailings to

"SOOCHOW"	Sydney, Melbourne & Brisbane	4th Jan.
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Arrivals from

"CLAN URQUHART"	Sydney	28th Dec.
"SOOCHOW"	Sydney, Brisbane & Manila	28th Dec.
"PRODUCE"	Australia	5th Jan.

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JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN SERVICE

Arrivals	Sailings
"TITJALENGKA" from Manila & Amoy 22nd Dec.	to Javaport & Macassar 24th Dec. (p.m.)
"THISADANE" from Macassar & Javaport 24th Dec.	to Javaport & Macassar 26th Jan.
"TASMAN" from Macassar & Javaport 24th Dec.	to Javaport & Macassar 26th Jan.
"TUBADAK" in port	to Javaport & Macassar 26th Jan.

ASIA-AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE

Arrivals	Sailings
"TEGELBERG" in port	to South Africa & South America 25th Jan.
"RUYS" from South America & South Africa 17th Jan.	to South Africa & South America 20th Jan.
"STRAAT MALAKKA" from South America & South Africa 17th Jan.	to South Africa & South America 20th Jan.
"BOISSEYAIN" from South America & South Africa 17th Jan.	to South Africa & South America 20th Jan.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L to Dar-es-Salaam, Mombasa, Zanzibar accepted on all sailings.

SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE

Arrivals	Sailings
"TITJALENGKA" from Amoy 22nd Dec.	to Singapore 24th Dec. (p.m.)
"VAN RIENSDIJK" from B. Del. & Straits 24th Dec.	to Straits & B. Del. 26th Jan.

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Arrivals	Sailings
"MOLENERK" from Japan & Shanghai 2nd Jan.	to Europe via Manila & Straits 4th Jan.
"MEERKERK" from Europe 2nd Jan.	to S'hai, Japan via Keelung 4th Jan.
"RIJNKERK" from Europe 2nd Jan.	to Europe via Manila & Straits, Mid January.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L accepted to Mediterranean and Northern European ports.

Agents: SILVER LINE LTD.

Arrivals	Sailings
"SILVERBRIAR" from U.S. via Pacific Coast & California 25th Dec.	to Saigon, S'pore 26th Dec.

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TO AND FROM PACIFIC & ATLANTIC COASTS

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC COAST VIA TACOMA

m.v. "DONA NATI"	25th Dec.
m.v. "DONA ANICETA"	22nd Jan.
m.v. "TONGHAI"	4th Feb.

LOADING FOR U.S. ATLANTIC COAST VIA LOS ANGELES

m.v. "DONA NATI"	26th Dec.
m.v. "BENARES"	10th Jan.
m.v. "DONA ANICETA"	25th Jan.

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FINANCE AND COMMERCE

INVESTMENTS IN PHILIPPINES SHOW BIG INCREASE IN YEAR

Manila, December 21.

Corporations and commercial partnerships put US\$56,589,685 worth of paid-in capital to work in the Philippines during the fiscal year ended June 30.

The Securities and Exchange Commission reported 1,259 new or reactivated organizations were registered within the period.

London Stock Exchange

London, December 20.

Christmas shopping was uppermost in the minds of many dealers today. Attendance was beginning to show signs of a seasonal decline and trading in all sections was small.

There was, however, some support for illiquid short-dated stocks and this section had many fractional gains.

Iron, steel and textiles were quietly firm, the latter in provincial support, but breweries and miscellaneous leaders generally lost a few pence.

Shipping shares were marked lower on some apprehension concerning the recent fall in freight rates. Fractional losses were common in oil. Profit-taking reduced the recent rise in Venezuelan Oil. Consols, others were a few pence lower.

Brazilian rails were easier on prospect of a long delay concerning the takeover.

Scattered selling by the Cape produced a weak note in Kaffirs. Most of these South African mines were lower in the absence of support.

SECURITIES: British Consols, 2 1/2% 79-11/16; Conversion Loan, 3 1/2% 1991 108 1/2; Funding Loan, 4 1/2% 1960 114-5/16; War Loan, 3 1/2% 1952 103-13/16; War Loan, 3 1/2% 1954 103-13/16; Victory Bonds, 6% 115-3/16.

INDUSTRIALS: British American Tobacco (of G.I. & Ireland) 5-15/16; Imperial Chemical Indust. ord. 48/10 1/2; Imperial Tobacco Co. (of G.I. & Ireland) 6-23/32.

TEA SHARES: Assam Consolidated Tea 20/9; Assam Frontier Tea 15/-; Assam Tea Company 22/3; Dooars Tea Company 25/4; Emp. of India & Ceylon Tea Co. 16/2; Imperial Tea Company 27/4.

MINE SHARES: Crown Cons. 6/9; Crown Mines 8-1/16; Nanyangtung Mines 11/16 1/2; Rand Mines 4-15/16; Spring Mines 7/2; Sub. Nigla 4-1/2; Tavor Tin Co. 1/2; Union Corporation 210/-.

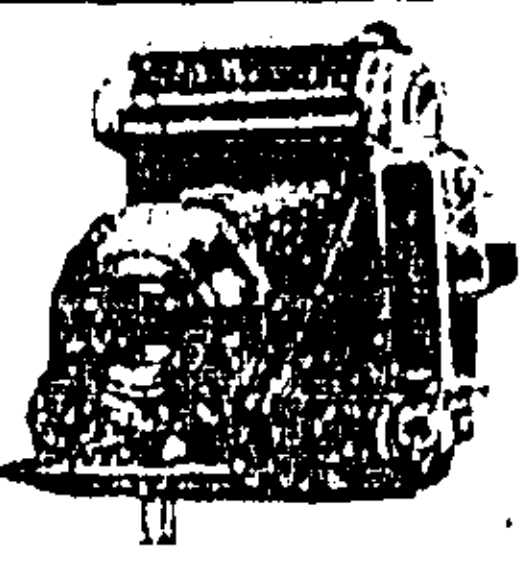
OIL SHARES: Royal Dutch Co. 24 1/2; Shell Transport & Trading Co. 52/12 1/2.

SHIPPING: P. & O. Siam Nav. Co. ord. 51/9; GILTEDGED: Funding Loan, 3 1/2% 1991 108 1/2; National War Bonds, 2 1/2% 1949/51 104-11/16; 1952/54 103-1/2; 1954/56 104-13/16; 1956/58 105-1/2; 1958/60 106-1/2; 1960/62 107-1/2; 1962/64 108-1/2; 1964/66 109-1/2; 1966/68 110-1/2; 1968/70 111-1/2; 1970/72 112-1/2; 1972/74 113-1/2; 1974/76 114-1/2; 1976/78 115-1/2; 1978/80 116-1/2; 1980/82 117-1/2; 1982/84 118-1/2; 1984/86 119-1/2; 1986/88 120-1/2; 1988/90 121-1/2; 1990/92 122-1/2; 1992/94 123-1/2; 1994/96 124-1/2; 1996/98 125-1/2; 1998/00 126-1/2; 2000/02 127-1/2; 2002/04 128-1/2; 2004/06 129-1/2; 2006/08 130-1/2; 2008/10 131-1/2; 2010/12 132-1/2; 2012/14 133-1/2; 2014/16 134-1/2; 2016/18 135-1/2; 2018/20 136-1/2; 2020/22 137-1/2; 2022/24 138-1/2; 2024/26 139-1/2; 2026/28 140-1/2; 2028/30 141-1/2; 2030/32 142-1/2; 2032/34 143-1/2; 2034/36 144-1/2; 2036/38 145-1/2; 2038/40 146-1/2; 2040/42 147-1/2; 2042/44 148-1/2; 2044/46 149-1/2; 2046/48 150-1/2; 2048/50 151-1/2; 2050/52 152-1/2; 2052/54 153-1/2; 2054/56 154-1/2; 2056/58 155-1/2; 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HONG KONG, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1948.


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ENGLAND WINS TEST IN THRILLING FINISH

Durban, December 20.

In one of the most thrilling finishes ever seen in a Test match, England snatched a two wicket win off the last ball in the first Test against South Africa here today.

The crowd, cheering every run and every fall of wicket, jumped about with excitement as both sides struggled for victory during England's second innings, for a long period during which the outcome was altogether in doubt.

At the close, the scoreboard both against time and bat left South Africa 128 and England 253 and 128 for.

After a dramatic first day, England were left the task of scoring 128 in 130 minutes, with bad weather threatening to bring play to a premature close.

Battling in the fading light, which was worse than at any time in the match, their wickets tumbled to the first bowling of the evening when McCarthy, playing in his first Test.

The score went from 40 for two to 70 for six, then Dennis Compton (20) and Inland Jenkins (22) gave England a fighting chance with a seventh wicket stand of 45.

South Africa's hopes of victory began again when the next two wickets fell for the addition of only one run, but Alec Bedser (one not out) and Cliff Gladwin (seven not out) saved together to gain a great victory for England.

The excitement was so tense at the close that the umpires forgot to signal the lay bye off Gladwin's third, which brought victory to England off the last ball of the match.

Wonderful Debut

McCarthy in a wonderful Test debut took six wickets for 43 runs in 12 overs.

The foundation of South Africa's great fight was laid in their second innings by Wade and Bedser, who took part in a stand of 95 for the fifth wicket, Wade getting 63 and Bedser 48.

Starting the day two runs behind, with four second innings wickets down, South Africa were 128 for 6 at lunch and led by 47 runs.

After the stand by Wade and Bedser, South Africa lost two wickets in the space of five runs, Bedser was caught off Bedser for 48, and Oswald Dawson fell to a catch off Wright's bowling for three.

South Africa lost their last four wickets for 40 runs after lunch and were all out for 210.

England's task of scoring the 128 runs for victory was a race

Hierarchy Spoiling The U.N.

Washington, December 20.

Dr. Juan Bramuglia, Argentine Foreign Minister, in an interview with the weekly magazine, the United States News, today analysed the causes of the failure of the United Nations to settle the Berlin dispute.

The President of the Security Council during its debate on the Berlin crisis, Dr. Bramuglia criticised the practice of making distinctions between the status of great and small powers.

Dr. Bramuglia declared: "A theory of hierarchy is applied which is so absolute that it receives the old problems of the League of Nations. In the League there was also much argument between the theory of hierarchy in which States are arranged in groups of different rank and power, and the theory of democracy, in which all States are equal."

"Now this same problem arises again in the United Nations, which is quite natural because the theory of hierarchy is still the principle of the juridical equality of States," he said.

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Yacht Club Elects New Sailing Captain

The General Committee of the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club has elected Lt. Cdr. D. E. Bromley-Martin, RN, to be Sailing Captain of the Club to succeed Mr. T. F. Honess, who is leaving the Colony for U.K. immediately after Christmas.

Mr. Honess was one of the original officers of the Services Sailing Club which was formed here exactly three years ago to bridge the gap until the RHYC itself was able to take over.

Lt. Cdr. D. E. Bromley-Martin has done valuable work as Chairman of two Regatta Committees at the club this year and so is in an excellent position to take over from Mr. Honess.

Last week-end at the club saw the first heats in the Star and Dinghy Regatta Championship, the third in the Ladies Autumn series, and the final races in the Autumn open dinghy series and Autumn Jubilee Shield. The results of the Jubilee Shield are:

AUTUMN JUBILEE SHIELD
1st. Mirex (Mr. F. J. Crocker). 2nd. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 3rd. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 4th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 5th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 6th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 7th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 8th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 9th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 10th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 11th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 12th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 13th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 14th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 15th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 16th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 17th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 18th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 19th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 20th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 21st. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 22nd. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 23rd. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 24th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 25th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 26th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 27th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 28th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 29th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 30th. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 31st. Mirex (Mr. G. L. Subtle). 32nd. 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